JUNK FORCE

Leave the planet and don't look back !

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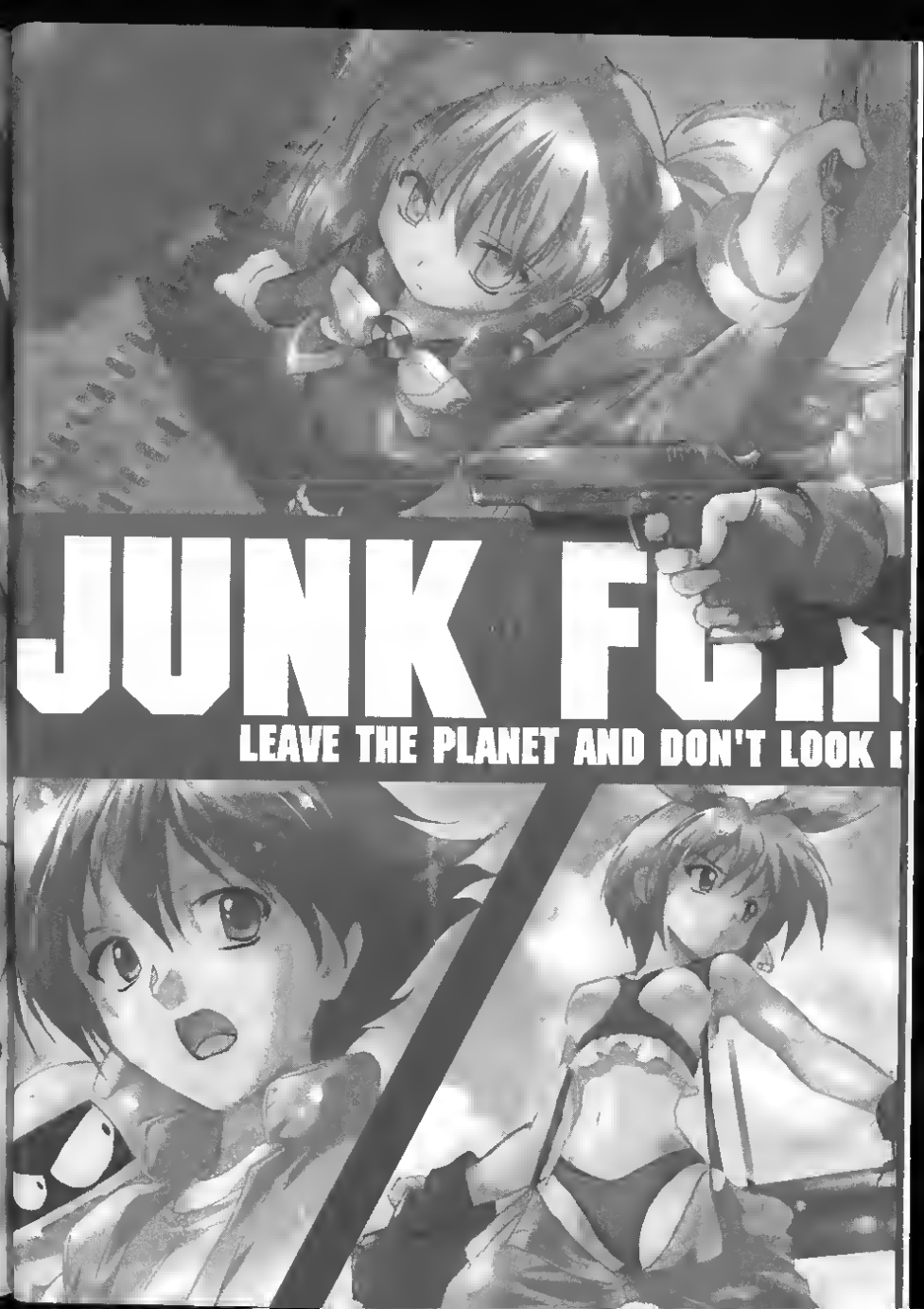
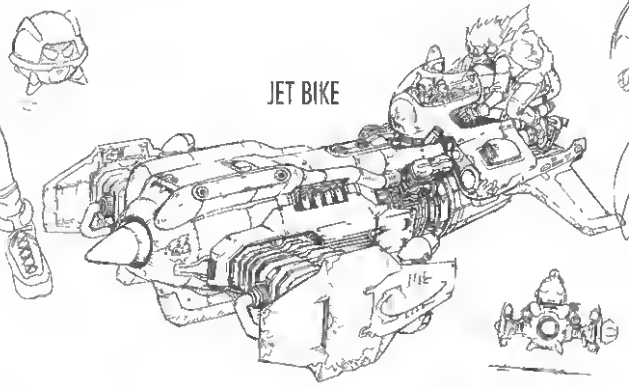
KATA KATA


JUNK FC
LEAVE THE PLANET AND DON'T LOOK

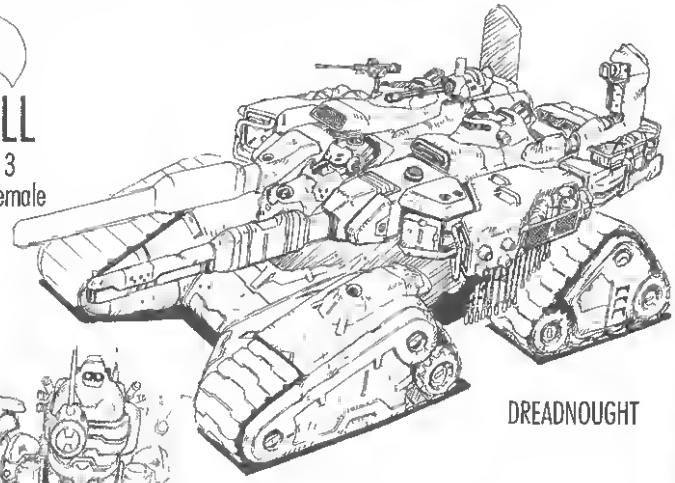
SETTING DATA FILE:CHARACTER&HBT

LOUIS
age:14
sex:male

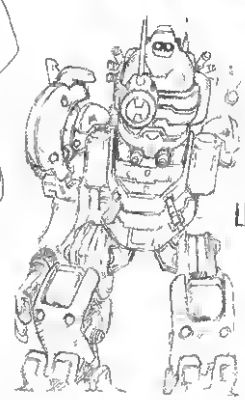


JET BIKE

MILL
age:13
sex:female

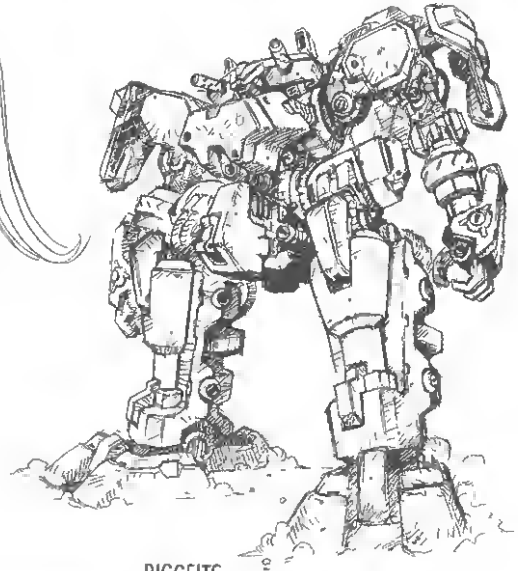


DREADNOUGHT



LITTLE-BOW

MAMET
age:unknown
sex:unknown



BIGGEITS

SCORPION

WOOTY
age:14
sex:female

LIZA
age:16
sex:female

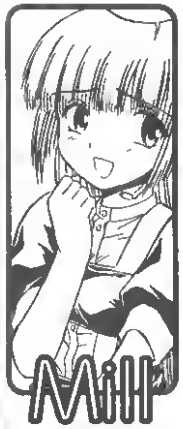
イラスト／駒都えーじ、松川健一

A FORTRESS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT?
GRM-GRM-GRM
I WONDER HOW IT SURVIVED WITH ALL THE ACID RAIN.
LOOKS LIKE NO ONE'S LIVING IN THE SURROUNDING TOWN... BUT WHO'S LIVING INSIDE THE CASTLE?
WOW! I NEVER WOULD'VE EXPECTED TO SEE A REAL CASTLE OUT HERE!
!?
BAM
WELCOME TO MY CASTLE!!
PLEASE COME IN, MY FELLOW TRAVELERS!!
MY NAME IS BELTIN, AND I'M THE FIFTIETH OWNER OF THIS CASTLE!!

Characters & Story

IN THE YEAR 2100, THE OUTBREAK OF THE LAST WORLD WAR (L.L.W.) SPLIT THE HUMAN RACE INTO THE EARTH REGENERATION FACTION AND THE MARS PIONEER FACTION, AND MADE EARTH'S ENVIRONMENT NEARLY INHOSPITABLE. NOW IN THE YEAR 2134, EARTH'S ENVIRONMENT HAS DETERIORATED TO A CRITICAL LEVEL. DESERTIFICATION HAS TAKEN PLACE ON A WIDE SCALE AND A BILLION TONS OF DANGEROUS CHARGED PARTICLES FLOAT THROUGH THE ATMOSPHERE, TURNING THE EARTH INTO A WASTE LAND. ADDING THE ANDROID MAMET TO THEIR PARTY, THE THREE GIRLS (LIZA, WOOTY, AND MILL) AND A BOY (LOUIS) ARE IN THE MIDST OF THEIR ENDLESS JOURNEY TO STOP THE FULLY-AUTOMATED ENVIRONMENT PURIFICATION SYSTEM, ALSO CALLED THE Z.P.T., THAT HAD MYSTERIOUSLY MALFUNCTIONED. DURING THEIR JOURNEY, OUR HEROES LEARN ABOUT THE MARTIANS; MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAD DESERTED EARTH FOR A NEW START ON MARS. THE MARTIANS WERE PLANNING TO COME BACK WITH AN ARMY TO TAKE OVER EARTH BY ANNIHILATING THE CURRENT INHABITANTS. OUR HEROES DROVE THE MARTIAN ARMY AWAY WITH THE HELP OF THE ANTI-MARTIAN EARTH SELF-DEFENSE FORCE (EDAF), BUT THE MARTIANS WERE STILL MAKING STEADY PROGRESS BEHIND THE SCENES. WITH A FULL SCALE MARTIAN INVASION CLOSE AT HAND, THEIR ONLY CONCERN IS TO GET TO Z.P.T. AS FAST AS POSSIBLE...

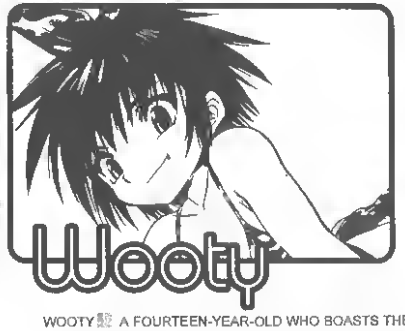
LIZA 麗 A CLEAR AND COOL-MINDED SIXTEEN YEAR-OLD. THE TEAM LEADER WHO CAN DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING



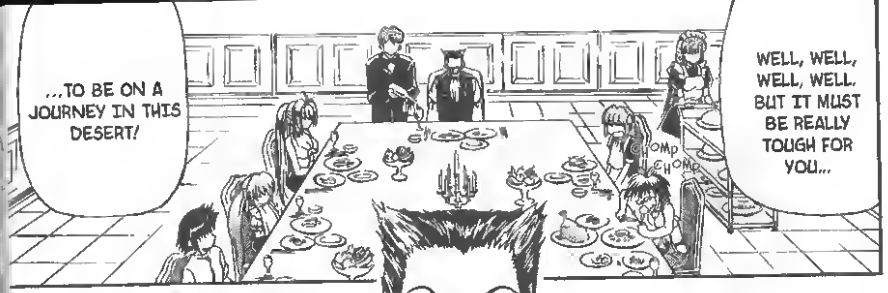
MILL 美 A THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER OF A WEALTHY FAMILY. HER SPECIALTY IS DRIVING TANKS AND HER COOKING IS LETHAL

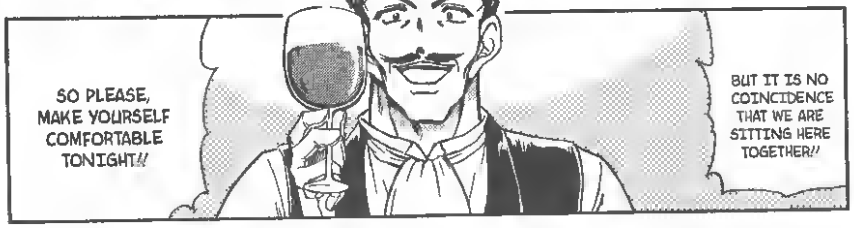
LOUIS 路 THE ONLY BOY MEMBER. A FOURTEEN YEAR OLD WITH EXPERTISE IN MECHANICS AND GADGETS. ACTUALLY A MECHANICS BUFF

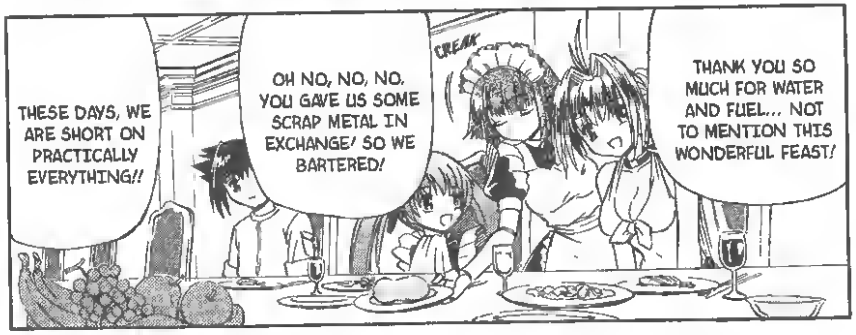
MAMET 真 A NEARLY INVINCIBLE ANDROID FROM MARS. COMES TO THINK OF LIZA AND LOUIS AS HER PARENTS

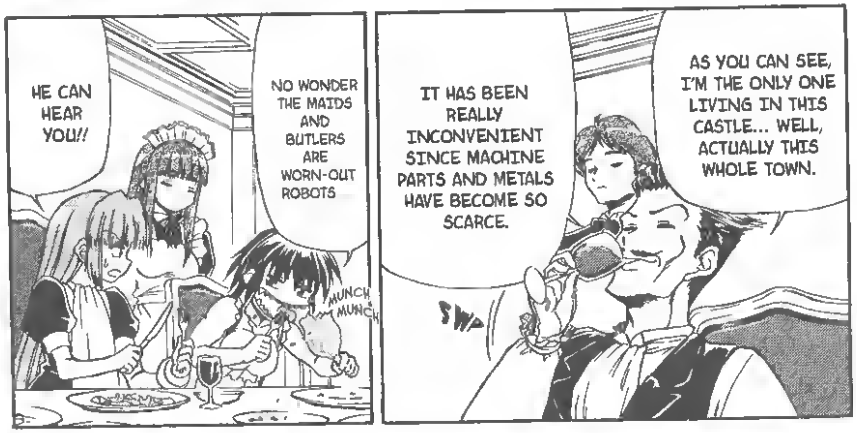


WOOTY 武 A FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD WHO BOASTS THE BIGGEST BOOBS OF THE GROUP. SHORT TEMPERED AND TOUGH AS NAILS. SHE IS A DECENT MECHANIC


...TO BE ON A JOURNEY IN THIS DESERT!
WELL, WELL, WELL, WELL. BUT IT MUST BE REALLY TOUGH FOR YOU...

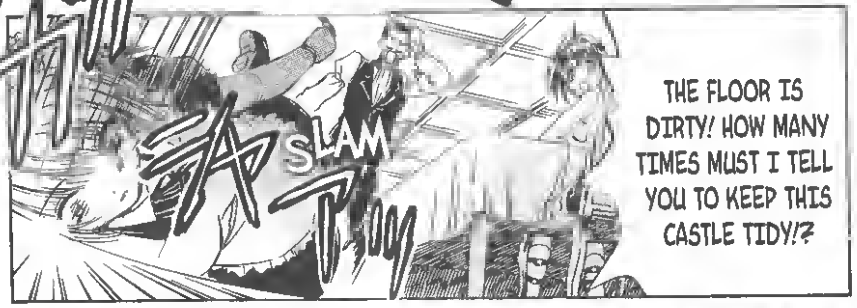

SO PLEASE, MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE TONIGHT!!
BUT IT IS NO COINCIDENCE THAT WE ARE SITTING HERE TOGETHER!!


THESE DAYS, WE ARE SHORT ON PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING!!
OH NO, NO, NO. YOU GAVE US SOME SCRAP METAL IN EXCHANGE! SO WE BARTERED!
CREAK
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR WATER AND FUEL... NOT TO MENTION THIS WONDERFUL FEAST!


HE CAN HEAR YOU!!
NO WONDER THE MAIDS AND BUTLERS ARE WORN-OUT ROBOTS
MUNCH MUNCH
IT HAS been REALLY INCONVENIENT SINCE MACHINE PARTS AND METALS HAVE BECOME SO SCARCE.
AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M THE ONLY ONE LIVING IN THIS CASTLE... WELL, ACTUALLY THIS WHOLE TOWN.
SWA

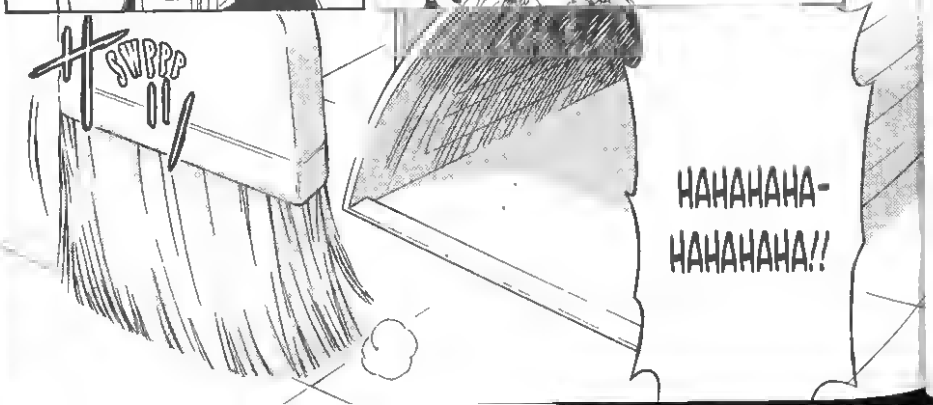
#13 BULLDOG

ボガ
KAKK
グ


ガ
SLAM
THE FLOOR IS DIRTY! HOW MANY TIMES MUST I TELL YOU TO KEEP THIS CASTLE TIDY!?

CREEEK
WELL, WELL. I HAVEN'T HAD A FUN NIGHT LIKE THIS FOR AGES!!

GKKGK
...OH, I'M SORRY! THESE USED ROBOTS ARE BECOMING NEXT TO USELESS THESE DAYS!!
UH... HUH.


SUPPP
HAHAHAHA-HAHAHAHA!!

OH NO, NO, NO! DON'T BE SO MODEST! YOU MUST REST AND RELIEVE THE STRAIN FROM TRAVELING FOR AT LEAST ONE NIGHT!!

OH... BUT WE WEREN'T GOING TO...
YES SIR.
GAYLE!! PREPARE THE BEDROOMS WHILE OUR GUESTS ARE DINING!!

HMMMM!?

YES!
CREAK
SNAP
ANNA!!

HUH?
DUST ON THE FLOOOOR!!

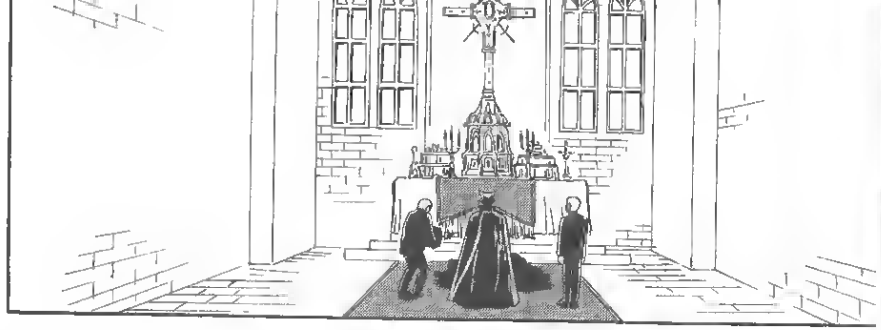
LET'S GO!!
ALL RIGHT! LET'S GO EXPLORE THE CASTLE!!
TEACH GOOD DISCIPLINE! EARLY TO BED, EARLY TO RISE!!
OH WELL.
HMMM. LIZA'S NOT GONNA LIKE THIS.
UMM... I WAS JUST GOING FOR A WALK.
THEN MAMET'S GOING WITH YOU!!
WOW...
HMP?
IT'S LIKE A MAZE.
WHAT A COMPLICATED STRUCTURE...
IT'S REALLY HUGE...
HEY WAIT, MAMET!
DHOOSH
LET'S GO SEE!!
I HEAR SOME-THING DOWN BELOW ...
WHAT IS IT?

HE'S A BIT OVER EXTRAVAGANT TOO.. KINDA WEIRD
HE MUST BE REALLY LONELY LIVING BY HIMSELF IN A BIG PLACE LIKE THIS.
BUURP
BELTIN'S SUCH A NICE GUY.
PHEW! I'M STUFFED!
I CAN'T SLEEP... I GUESS I'M JUST TOO USED TO SLEEPING IN THAT NOISY CRAMPED-UP TRAILER.
SHOOT...
ROMP...
ANYWAYS ...
KNOCK KNOCK
AFTER ALL, HOW OFTEN DO I GET TO SEE A PLACE LIKE THIS?
WELL, WHY DON'T I TOUR THIS CASTLE WHILE I'M AWAKE?
PLEASE?
I WANTED TO SLEEP WITH YOU, DADDY.
TEE HEE!
HEY MAMET, WHAT IS IT?

W-WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?
BWAAAA
FHAHAHAHAHAHA!!

BOWWOOMP

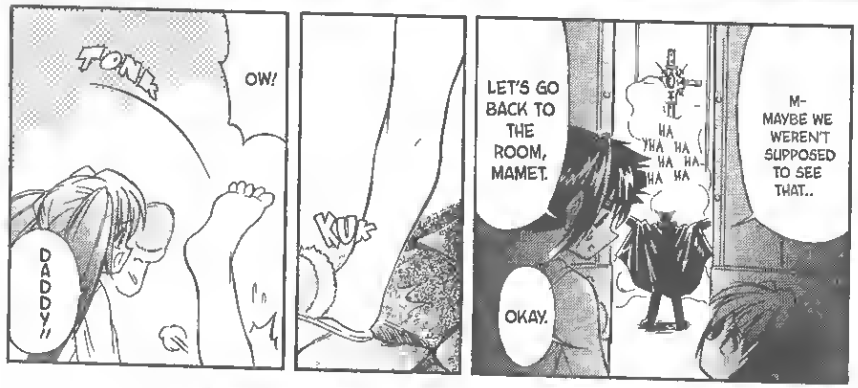
JZZZZ
BWAHHH
SZZZ
HHHSS



WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?
CH-CHNG
HEY, THERE'S THE SCRAP METAL WE GAVE THEM.
HRN?
IT'S A CHAPEL
IT'S METAL AT LAST...
HAHAHA... COME ON, EAT!
HSSZ
HSSZ
HSSZ

UGH...
ZSSH ZSSH
NO DADDY!!
WHA ...?
ZASH
TUM TUM TUM
ZSSH ZSSH
YAWN
WHOOOSH
MAMET!

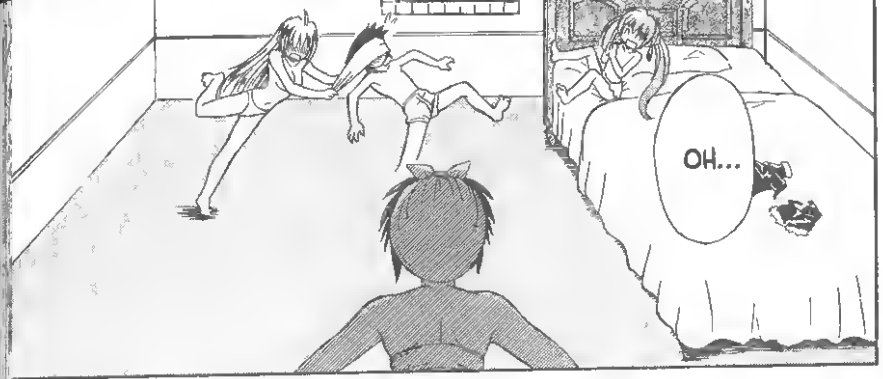
HAHAHAHA FWAHAHAHAHA!!
WHAT DID HE.. ?
IT'S A CHUNK OF METAL... HOW DID IT MELT AWAY SO QUICKLY LIKE THAT?


TONK
OW!
DADDY!!
KUK
LET'S GO BACK TO THE ROOM, MAMET.
OKAY.
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
M- MAYBE WE WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO SEE THAT..

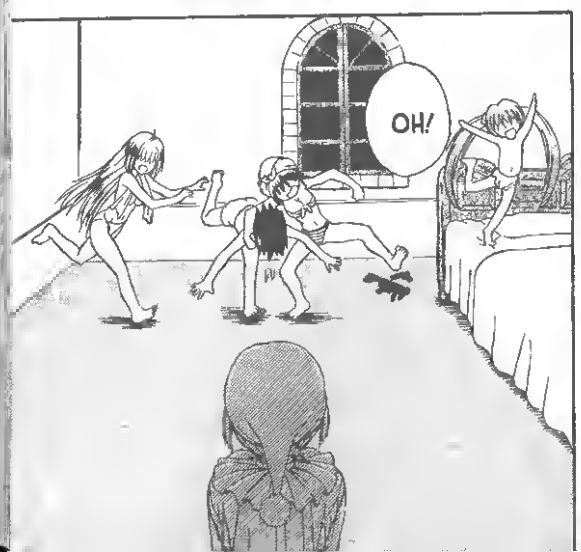
DRATS...
WHO'S THERE!!

SCHNUK
PHEW...
I HAVEN'T BATHED IN A BATHROOM THAT BIG IN AGES.
NOT SINCE I LIVED IN THE CITY...
HAVE I BEEN ABLE TO KICK BACK LIKE THIS...
WE'VE COME A LONG WAY...
BUT WE'RE STILL FAR FROM Z.P.T.

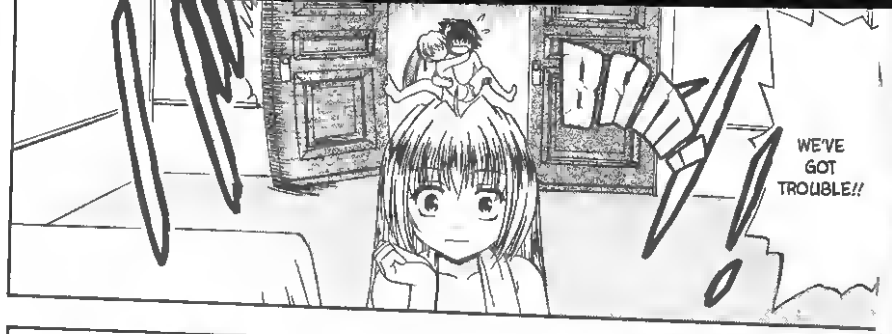
KWOOSH
KAWOOSH
COULD THAT BE ACID? MAYBE THAT'S WHAT MELTED THE SCRAP METAL!!
OH NO! THAT THING IS LIKE LIVING VAPOR...
MAMET!
DUM
DADDY!
DADDY!

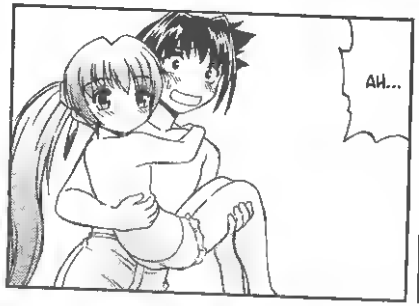

OH...

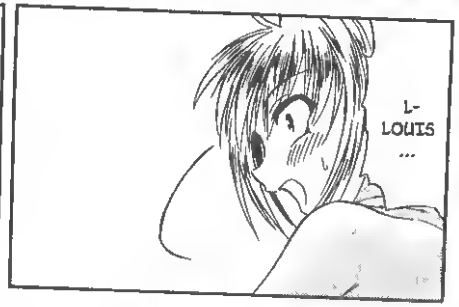
STOMP
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU...
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS ROMPING ABOUT FOR?!
?

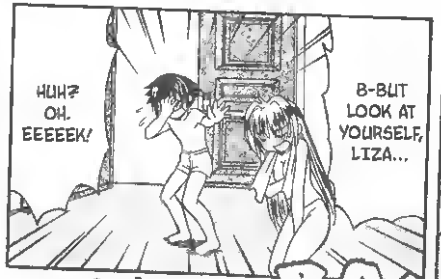

OH!

WHAT'S GOING ON?


BAM!
WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!!


AH...


L-LOUIS...


HUH? OH. EEEEEK!
B-BUT LOOK AT YOURSELF, LIZA...

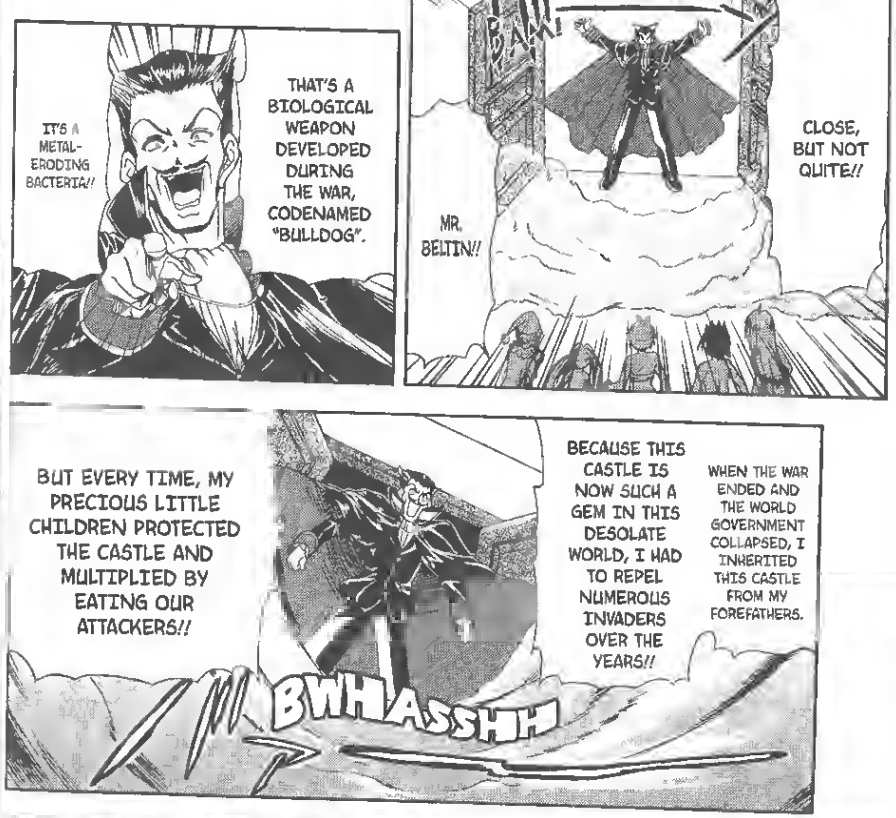
NO, IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK...
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH MAMET!!

BA-BAM
WHAT'S GOING ON!

VWWWWN
RA-TA-TA-TUM
WO-WOW! WHY'S IT COMING THIS WAY!?
JZZZ
GACHUNG
WOOSH
GAA!!
THAT THING EATS ANYTHING!! EVEN MY CLOTHES...
JZZZ
MY GUN! IT'S MELTING!

NOOO!!
FILTHYYY!!
MWHUFFFF
...HUH?
WATCH OUT!! GET AWAY FROM THERE, MILL!
LISTEN! IN THE HALLWAY!!
UH! I DON'T KNOW!! BUT DON'T TOUCH IT!!
YIKES!? W-WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE THIS IS!?
HHH
HH
HH
SSHHH

SLAM
NOOO!
I WILL SACRIFICE YOU ALL!!
B.GOOM
MAMET!!
GOT IT!!
VNNN
WHAT!?
L-LIZA...
SNK
WAIT... WHY ARE YOU GUYS GOING THAT WAY...?
WE WILL TOO!!
SWOOP
SWOOP
YOU WON'T GET AWAY!!
GWAAAAAA
LET'S JUST GET OUTTA HERE!!


IT'S A METAL-ERODING BACTERIA!!
THAT'S A BIOLOGICAL WEAPON DEVELOPED DURING THE WAR, CODENAMED "BULLDOG".
BAM!
MR. BELTIN!!
CLOSE, BUT NOT QUITE!!
BUT EVERY TIME, MY PRECIOUS LITTLE CHILDREN PROTECTED THE CASTLE AND MULTIPLIED BY EATING OUR ATTACKERS!!
BECAUSE THIS CASTLE IS NOW SUCH A GEM IN THIS DESOLATE WORLD, I HAD TO REPEL NUMEROUS INVADERS OVER THE YEARS!!
WHEN THE WAR ENDED AND THE WORLD GOVERNMENT COLLAPSED, I INHERITED THIS CASTLE FROM MY FOREFATHERS.
BWHASSHH
IT'S ACID THAT'S STRONG ENOUGH TO EAT THROUGH METAL...
I SEE... THEY WEREN'T EATING THE CLOTHES, THEY WERE EATING THE METAL ON THE CLOTHES.
THEY MUST'VE EATEN THE TOWNS-PEOPLE TOO...
YOU GUYS ARE OUR FIRST VISITORS IN AGES!!
BUT LATELY, IT'S BECOMING HARDER TO CULTIVATE THEM AS THERE ARE FEWER VISITORS!!
AND YOUR TRAILER AND TANKS ARE PLENTY ENOUGH FOR MY 40 BILLION BACTERIA!!
HEEEHEHE

AHH
LNNNG
EIEEE!
POOM!

UGH...
WAIT A SEC! THEN LIZA AND LOUIS MIGHT BE LOST INSIDE...
HERE IT COMES!!

BUT IF IT WEREN'T FOR MAMET, WE WOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN OUT OF THAT MAZE...
HUFF PUFF PUFF
YOU DARE-DEVIL!

G-G GROOM
BWHUUFFF

UHFFF
Y-YES!
TAKE COVER IN THE TRAILER FOR NOW!!

IF THEY EAT THE TRAILER, WE'LL LOSE EVERYTHING!
THEN LET'S HEAD TO THE TRAILER FOR NOW!
LIZA'S GONNA BE FINE... I CAN'T SAY THAT ABOUT LOUIS THOUGH.
MOMMY AND DADDY...

MF-HUH...
POIK
CAREFUL, MAMET! REMEMBER, YOUR STUFFED WITH METAL PARTS!!
RIGHT ...

BWA-A-A-H
SCREECH
AKK! IT'S COMING FROM THE FRONT TOO!!

BADOOM
VWNN
WHOA!
PIOI

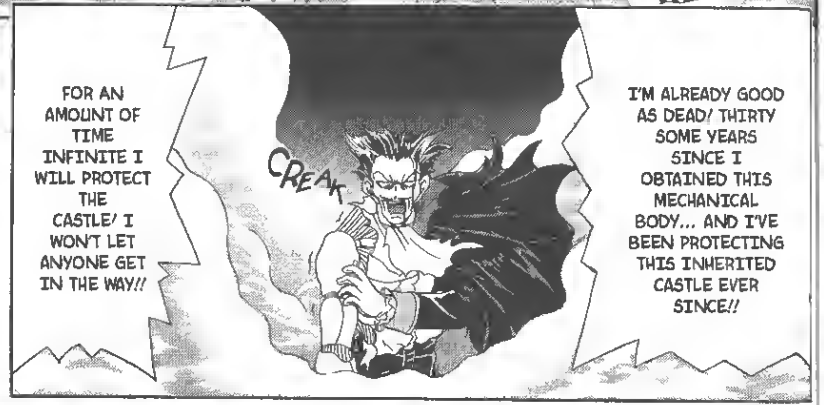
D'WOOM
L-LET'S GET OUTTA ...
AND WHERE DO YOU EXPECT TO GO...
WE'RE GONNA USE YOU AS BAIT TO GET YOUR TRAILER AND TANKS!!
FHA HA HA HA!!
BELTIN'!!
HEY! THAT'S...
BWHUFFF
AND EVEN FROM BELOW ...
FROM HERE ...?
GWHOOO
RRRR-RAAH!!
SCORPION!!
LIKE THE IRON IN MY BLOOD? PESKY BACTERIA
EVEN PEOPLE CONTAIN SMALL MINUTE AMOUNTS OF METAL.
THEY PROBABLY SENSE HEAT OR VIBRATION.
I WONDER... HOW THEY'RE TRACKING US?
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS THE TOP FLOOR...
IS THIS A STORE-ROOM ...?
W-WHAT DO WE DO THEN...?
N-NO WAY! WE'RE NOT JUMPING HERE...
WHOA!
BKOOM
!
WHEEEE

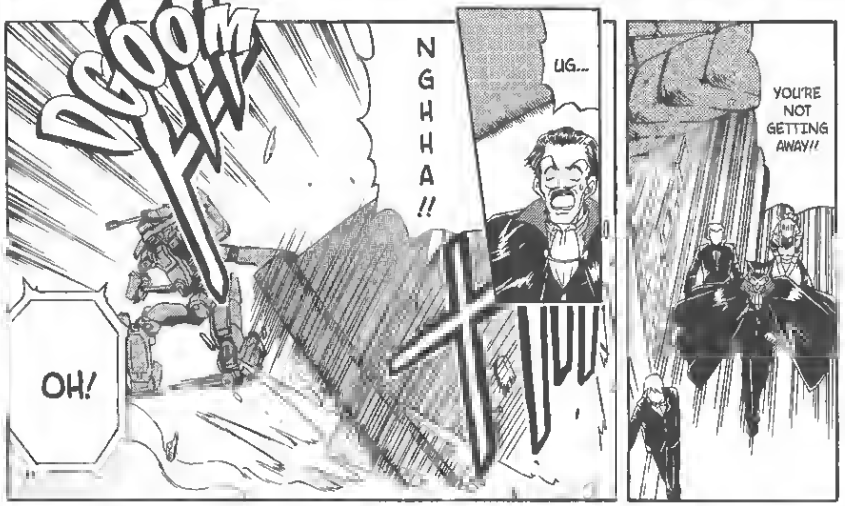
WHAAAAAT!?
OUTTA THE WAY, LOUIS!!
HCKK!
KOOOM
G-CHING
COOOME!!
HERE...
I...
SNATCH
UNGH...
SLIIP
WHOA!
H-HURRY!!
ACKK!
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY...
JUMP!!
AAAAAAA!
UH...
SLIPP
WHOOAHH
L-LOUIS!!

AAAAA!
DSHHHH!!
ALL RIGHT? ARE YOU CRAZY!?
YOU GUYS ALL RIGHT?!
OWWW
MEEK
WOOTY! THE RIGHT ARM!!
PLOMA
USSHHHHHH
DAMN IT...
CUT IT OFF! HURRY!!
WHOA! NO SHIT!!
SKRAKK
L-LOUIS! DON'T LET GO... HEY!
EEEK...
ZLYIP
R-RIGHT ...
SORRY... IT'S TOTALLY UNINTENTIONAL...
EIEEEEK!! WHAT'RE YOU DOING!!
LET GOOOOO!
YOU DON'T MEAN THAT...
UGKH ...
G'KMM
SHOOM
MEEEK

A ROBOT ...? NO...
YOU'RE GONNA PAY FOR THIS!!
BASTARDS! YOU LITTLE BASTARDS!!

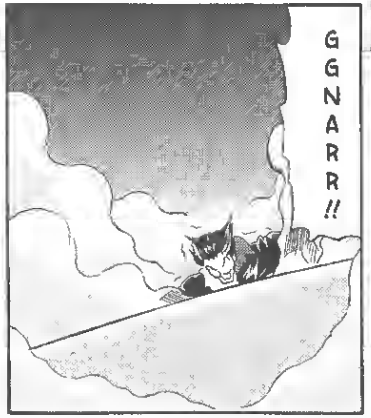
BWOOSH
SO MUCH, FOR ALL THE TROUBLE TO FIX THIS...

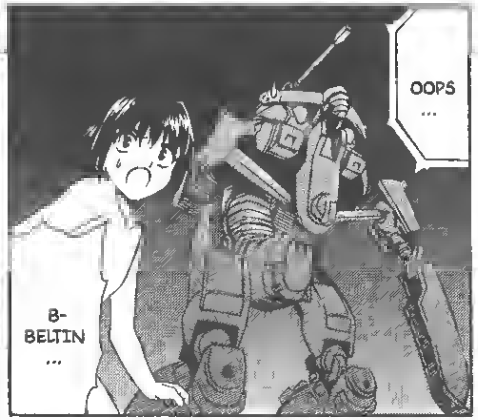

FOR AN AMOUNT OF TIME INFINITE I WILL PROTECT THE CASTLE/ I WON'T LET ANYONE GET IN THE WAY!!
CREAK
I'M ALREADY GOOD AS DEAD/ THIRTY SOME YEARS SINCE I OBTAINED THIS MECHANICAL BODY... AND I'VE BEEN PROTECTING THIS INHERITED CASTLE EVER SINCE!!


DOOM
NGHHA!!
UG...
OH!
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY!!

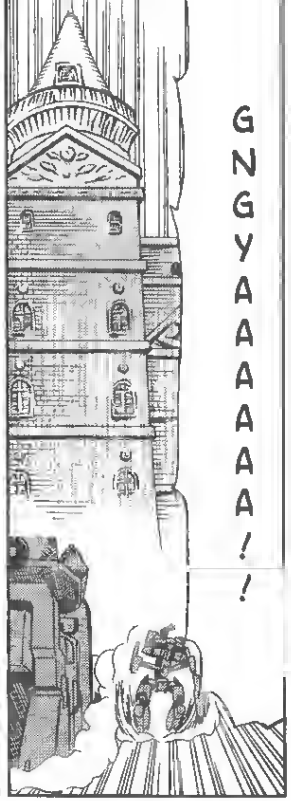
IT'S ALREADY EATEN AWAY!!
SCORPION'S RIGHT ARM...
JSSHHHH

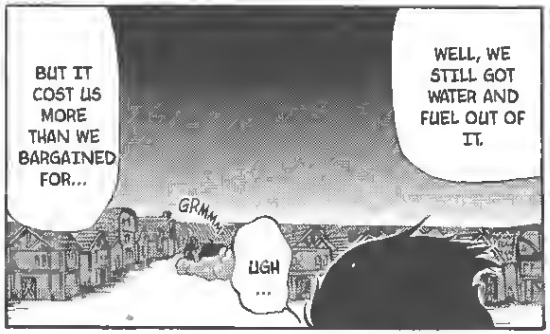
HEY!!
HE SACRIFICED HIS BODY FOR THAT...?

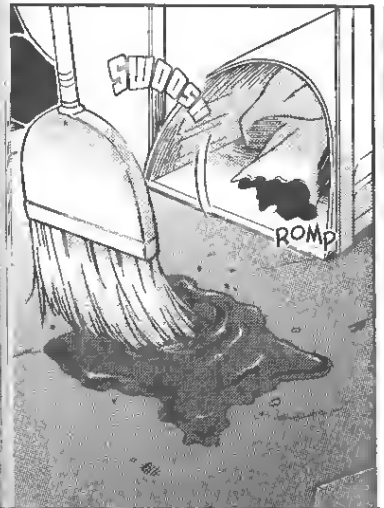

GGNARR!!


OOPS ...
B-BELTIN ...

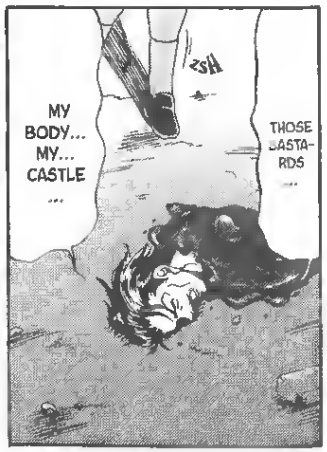
WHAT PERSISTENCE...
30 YEARS AGO... SO HE BECAME A CYBORG DURING THE WAR AND STAYED LIKE THAT EVER SINCE...
I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND IT.


GNGYAAAAAA!!

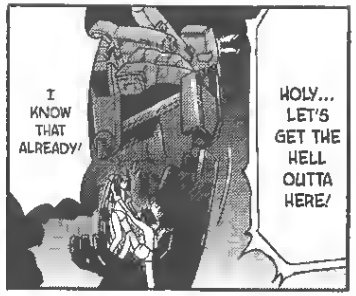

BUT IT COST US MORE THAN WE BARGAINED FOR...
WELL, WE STILL GOT WATER AND FUEL OUT OF IT.
GRMMM...
UGH ...

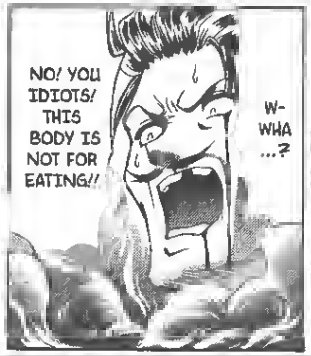

SWOOSH
ROMP

CREAK


MY BODY... MY... CASTLE ...
HSZ
THOSE BASTARDS ...

AFTER THAT TANK, THE TRAILER'S NEXT...
ZWSHHHH
IDIOTS! YOU THINK I WOULD LET AN IDEAL FEED GET AWAY!?


I KNOW THAT ALREADY!
HOLY... LET'S GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE!

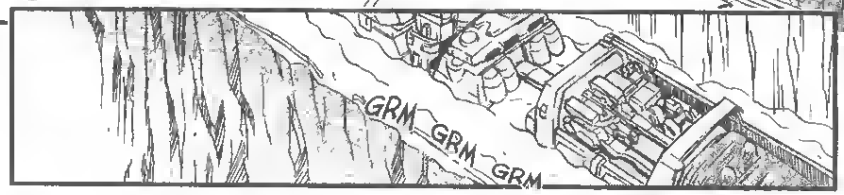

NO! YOU IDIOTS! THIS BODY IS NOT FOR EATING!!
W-WHA ...?

WHOOSSSH
HUH? WHAT'S THE MATTER ...?

BYOOOM
GET THE HECK OUT OF HERE!!
N-NO...

BUT THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON!

GRM GRM GRM GRM


GRM GRM GRM

I'M BORED. I WANNA PLAY!
DADDY!
HMMM?

GRM
GRM

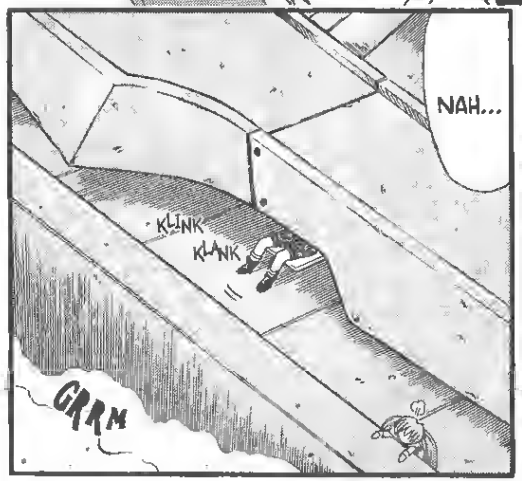
BUT YOU NEVER SEEM TO FINISH!
JUST A LITTLE MORE, YOU SAY...?
I'LL PLAY WITH YOU AS SOON AS I'M DONE.
I'M SO TIRED OF WAIT-ING!
POOF
CLATTER CLATTER
HOLD ON JUST A MINUTE MORE... I JUST FOUND THE PARTS I NEEDED TO FIX THIS.

#14 ILLIAN

WHAT THE...?
STOMP STOMP

UGHIK~

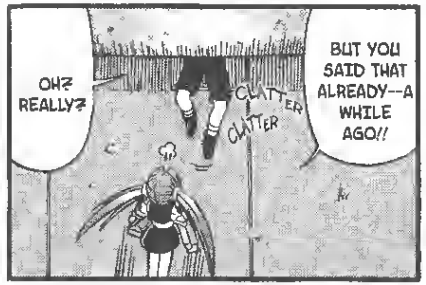
EEEEE!!

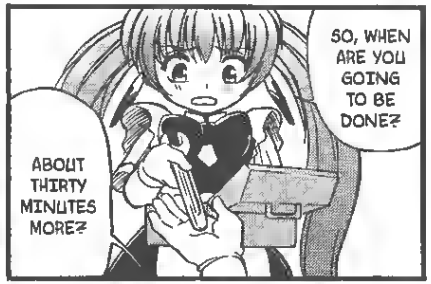

NAH...
KLINK
KLANK
GRRM

IS THERE SUCH A THING FOR AN ANDROID?
A PERIOD OF REBEL-LION?

MMKAY
HAND ME THE WRENCH
I'M REALLY ALMOST DONE...

THAT'S WHAT EVERY-BODY SAYS AND THEY WON'T PLAY WITH ME.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT, SO WE HAVE TO FIX IT A.S.A.P.!
AW, COME ON...

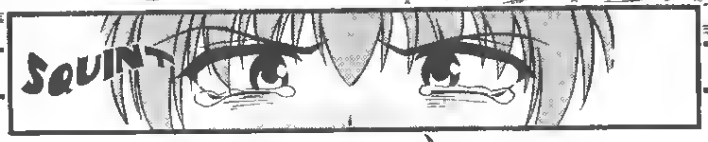

OH? REALLY?
CLATTER
CLATTER
BUT YOU SAID THAT ALREADY--A WHILE AGO!!

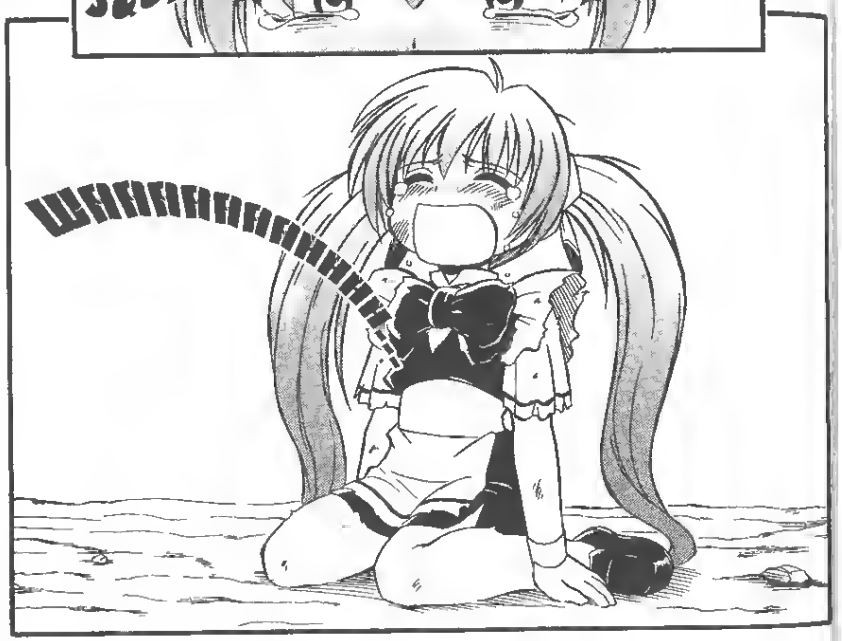

ABOUT THIRTY MINUTES MORE?
SO, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO BE DONE?

I HATE YOU, DADDY!!
OHHHHH! I'VE HAD IT! I'M GONNA PLAY BY MYSELF!!

GRM GRM GRM GRM
I'M PERFECTLY OKAY!
SLIPP
GRRRRM
MAM...
OOOH!
OH.
FLUFF
MAMET!!

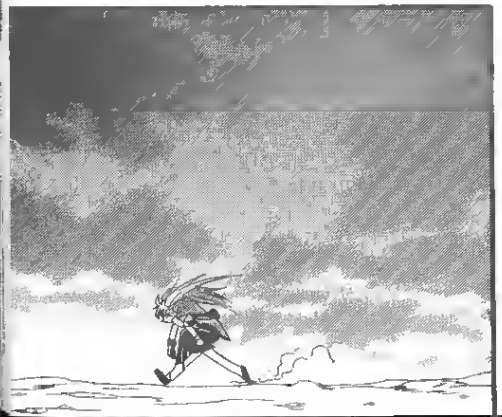
MAMET!
COULD YOU HAND ME THE WRENCH?
CHATTER CHATTER
MAMET?
IS SHE STILL MAD?
YA!
GRRRRM
GHWOOOSH
DOH! AKKK!!
EEE
I'M NOT COMING DOWN!
YOU'RE GONNA GET HURT...
M-MAMET!! GET DOWN FROM THERE!!
GRRRM
HMM?
GRRRRM



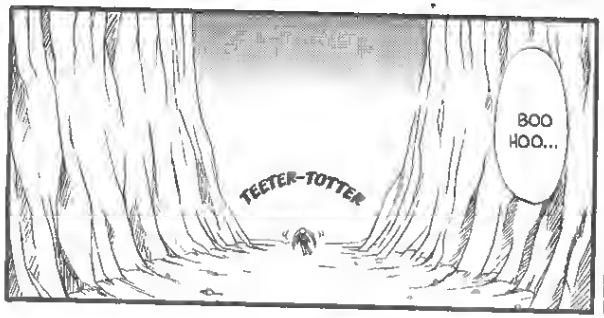

WHAAA

I'M GONNA TAKE YOU TO THE TOWN!!
ARE YOU OKAY?
IN THE DESERT, YOU DON'T HELP ANYBODY!
ARE YOU HURT?

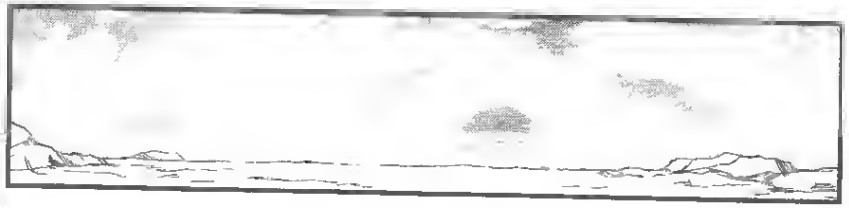
HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?
YOU'RE TYPE "M.A.M.E.T."...
UGHH ...
NNGH!



HOLD ON... I'LL GET YOU HELP RIGHT AWAY!
THUD
OH...

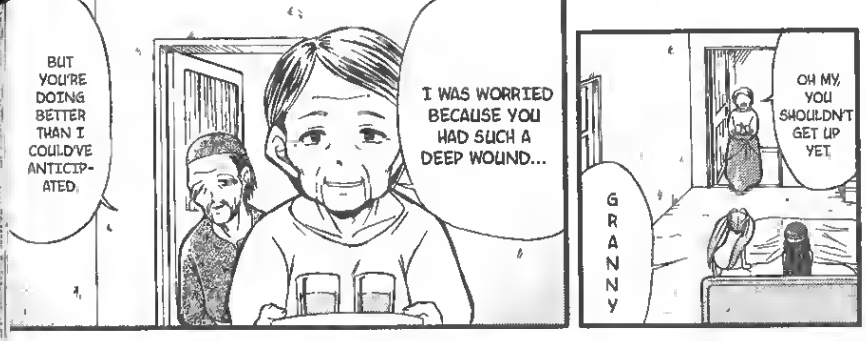

TEETER-TOTTER
BOO HOO...

IS IT... THAT WAY?



.....

UGH...
WHO ARE YOU?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

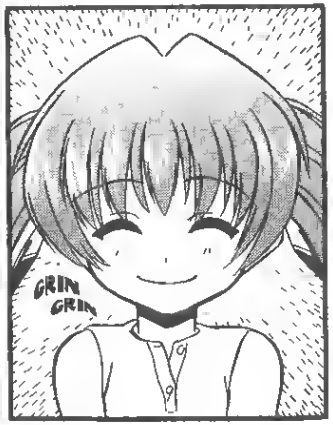

BUT YOU'RE DOING BETTER THAN I COULD'VE ANTICIP-ATED.
I WAS WORRIED BECAUSE YOU HAD SUCH A DEEP WOUND...

GRANNY
OH MY, YOU SHOULDN'T GET UP YET

TEE HEE HEE
RESCUED ME? THIS GIRL?

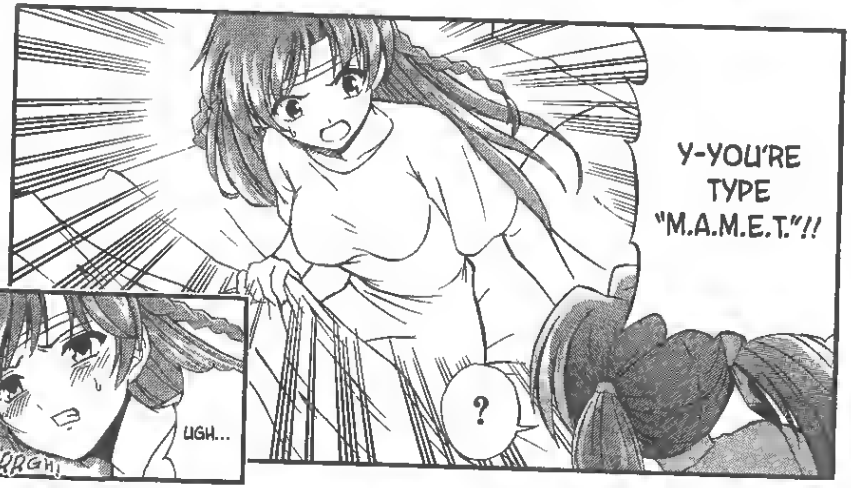
SUCH A WONDER-FUL GIRL.
TO FIND SUCH A SMALL GIRL CARRYING YOU HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT...
WE WERE SO SUR-PRISED...

WHAT A GOOD GIRL.
TEE HEE ♡
I'M BEING COMMENDED!
UM... THANK YOU...


GRIN GRIN

!
ARE YOU AWAKE?

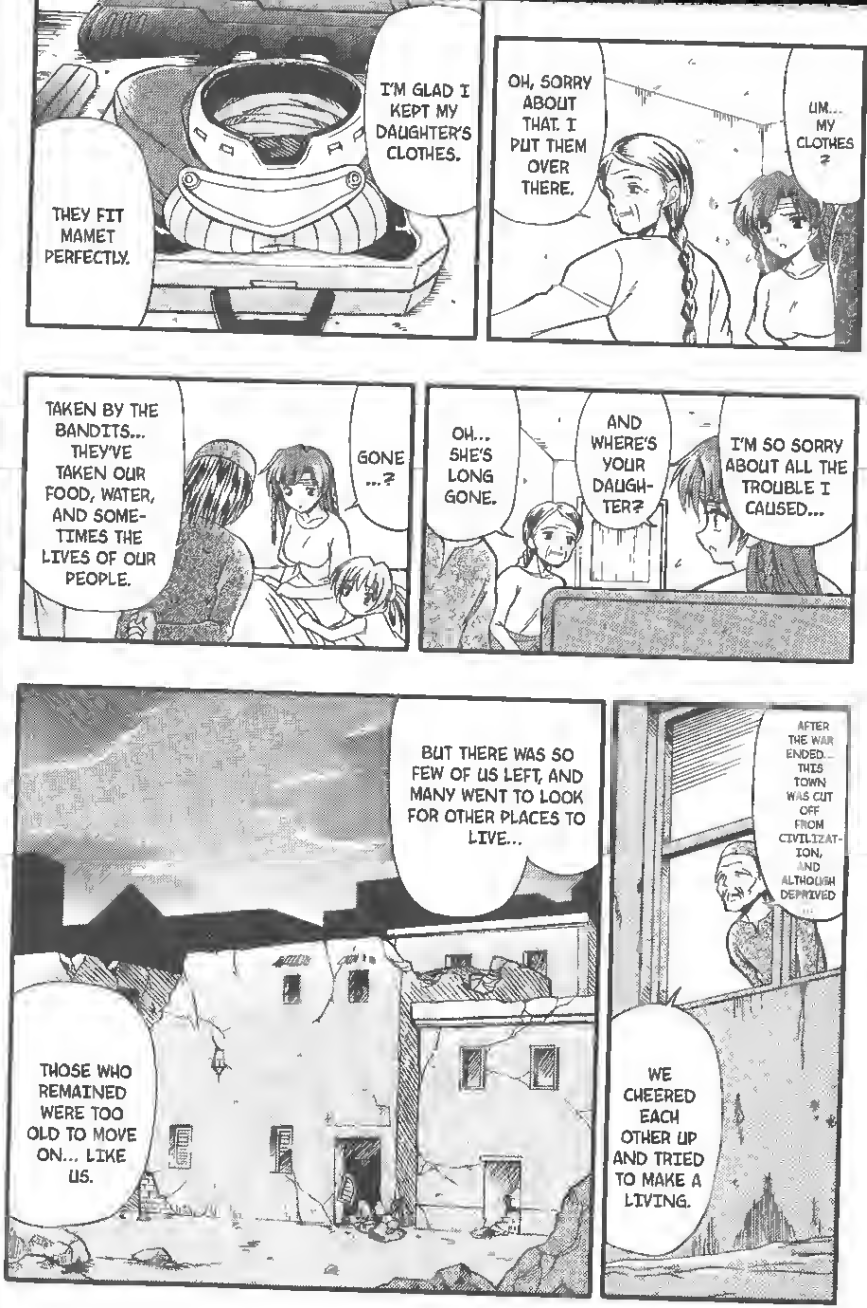
UGH...


Y-YOU'RE TYPE "M.A.M.E.T."!!
?

UGH...
HARRGH!

UGHHH...
YOU'RE STILL HURT!

AND OUR DAUGHTER'S GRAVE IS HERE...
IF WE HAD A VEHICLE, IT WOULD BE A DIFFERENT STORY. BESIDES, WE ARE MORE VULNERABLE TO BANDITS ON THE ROAD.
OUR TIME IS ALMOST UP...
SURELY YOU COULD'VE FOUND A WAY TO LEAVE.
WE DIDN'T WANT TO BE A BURDEN TO ANYONE.
SHE RESEMBLED YOU IN MANY WAYS...
YOU'RE WELCOME TO STAY AS LONG AS YOU NEED.
WE CAN'T OFFER YOU MUCH HERE, BUT...
WELL, SHE WAS OUR DAUGHTER, AFTER ALL!
HA HA HA
HO HO HO
OF COURSE, SHE WASN'T AS PRETTY AS YOU THOUGH!


I'M GLAD I KEPT MY DAUGHTER'S CLOTHES.
THEY FIT MAMET PERFECTLY.
OH, SORRY ABOUT THAT. I PUT THEM OVER THERE.
UM... MY CLOTHES?
TAKEN BY THE BANDITS... THEY'VE TAKEN OUR FOOD, WATER, AND SOMETIMES THE LIVES OF OUR PEOPLE.
GONE ...?
OH... SHE'S LONG GONE.
AND WHERE'S YOUR DAUGHTER?
I'M SO SORRY ABOUT ALL THE TROUBLE I CAUSED...
BUT THERE WAS SO FEW OF US LEFT, AND MANY WENT TO LOOK FOR OTHER PLACES TO LIVE...
THOSE WHO REMAINED WERE TOO OLD TO MOVE ON... LIKE US.
AFTER THE WAR ENDED... THIS TOWN WAS CUT OFF FROM CIVILIZATION, AND ALTHOUGH DEPRIVED
WE CHEERED EACH OTHER UP AND TRIED TO MAKE A LIVING.

HM, NO USEFUL INFOR-MATION ...
BUT ...
OKAY.
LET ME TAKE A PEEK INSIDE.
TUNK TUNK

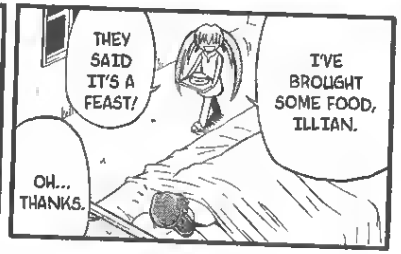
THEY'RE ALL KIND! MAMET LOVES ALL OF THEM!!
YEAH! MOMMY LIZA, DADDY LOUIS, SISTER WOOTY AND SISTER MILL!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE FOUND GOOD PEOPLE HERE ON EARTH...

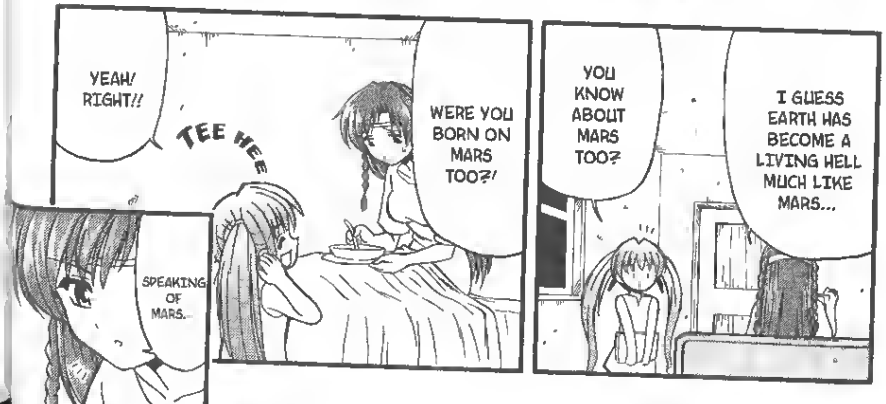
WE GOT SEPARATED.
BUT...

I'M SURE YOU'LL SEE THEM AGAIN.
I'M SORRY I BROUGHT IT UP.
SNUG
UH-HUH ...
WHAT AM I DOING WITH THIS M.A.M.E.T. TYPE ANDROID. NOT REALLY MY CUP OF TEA...
OOOH ...
BOOOO
I MISS THEM ...

ILLIAN F. BAXTER.
I'M ILLIAN...
OH... I FORGOT TO ASK YOUR NAME.

EVERYDAY'S A STRUGGLE...
MAYBE THIS IS AS GOOD AS IT GETS ON EARTH...
THEY CONSIDER A BOWL OF SOUP A FEAST?

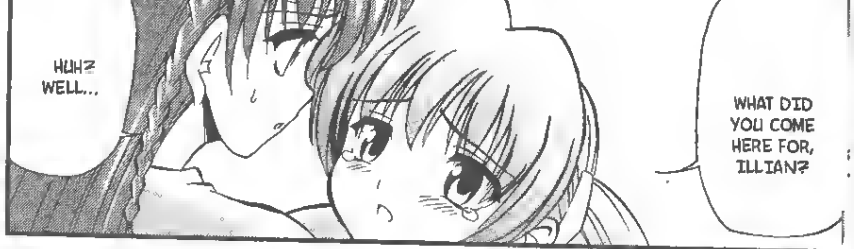

THEY SAID IT'S A FEAST!
I'VE BROUGHT SOME FOOD, ILLIAN.
OH... THANKS.


YEAH! RIGHT!!
TEE HEE
WERE YOU BORN ON MARS TOO?!
SPEAKING OF MARS...
YOU KNOW ABOUT MARS TOO?
I GUESS EARTH HAS BECOME A LIVING HELL MUCH LIKE MARS...

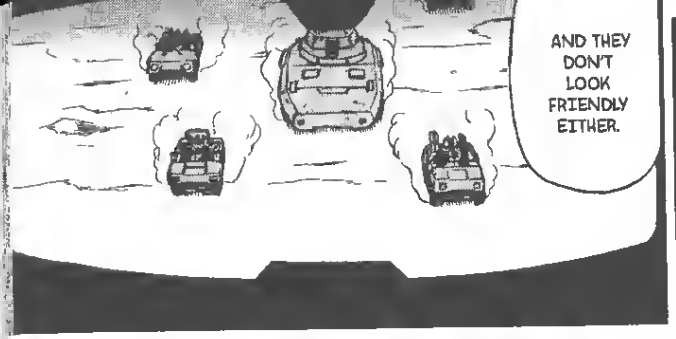
I'VE GOT TO COMPLETE MY MISSION BEFORE THE MARTIAN MAIN FORCE ARRIVES...
BUT, NOW I'M STUCK HERE, THANKS TO THE EARTH SELF-DEFENSE FORCE "E.I.H.A.V."...

ZZ ZZ
...HEY, WHY DON'T YOU JOIN ME AND...

RUNNING OUT OF TIME...
GOTTA HEAL MY WOUND AND GET TO "Z.P.T."
UFFT... OWW...


HUH? WELL...
WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR, ILLIAN?

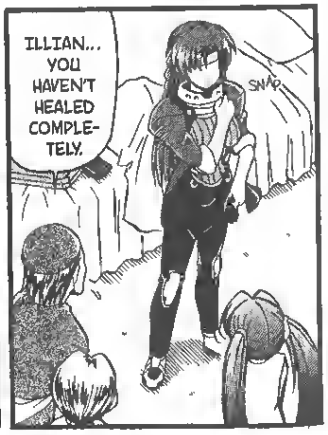
I... NO, FIVE OF US...
CAME HERE FROM MARS TO DRIVE "Z.P.T." OUT OF CONTROL AND KEEP EARTH IN THIS WRETCHED STATE...
I WAS THE ONLY ONE LEFT...
SOME OF THEM DIED, THE OTHERS LEFT THE LINE OF BATTLE TO BE NATURALIZED AS AN EARTHLING...

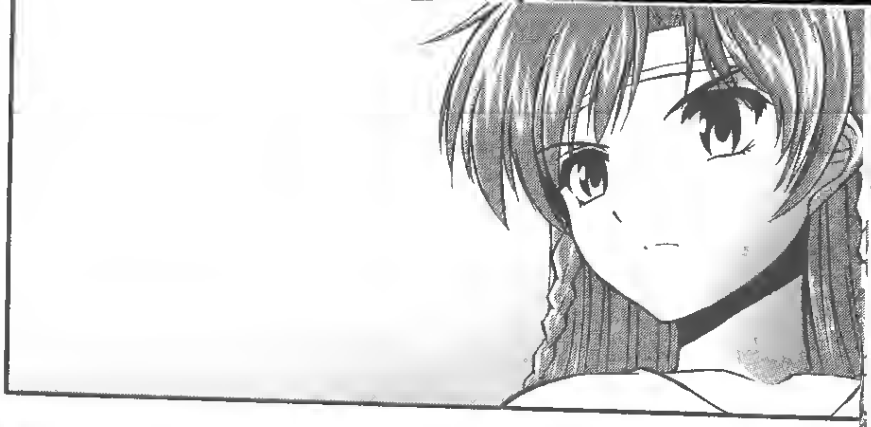

AND THEY DON'T LOOK FRIENDLY EITHER.

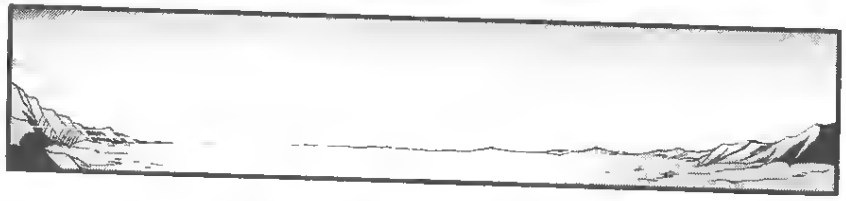
THEY LOOK MILITARY
.....

.....
HEAVY ARTILLERIES ... THEY MUST BE THE BANDITS.
DON'T THINK THEY'RE E.I.H.A.V. EITHER...

W-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!
IF I DON'T COME BACK, YOU MUST LEAVE THE TOWN WITH MAMET.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS ...

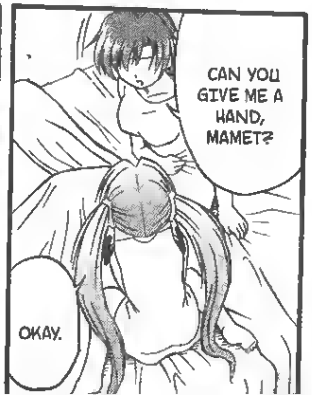

ILLIAN... YOU HAVEN'T HEALED COMPLE-TELY.
SNAP



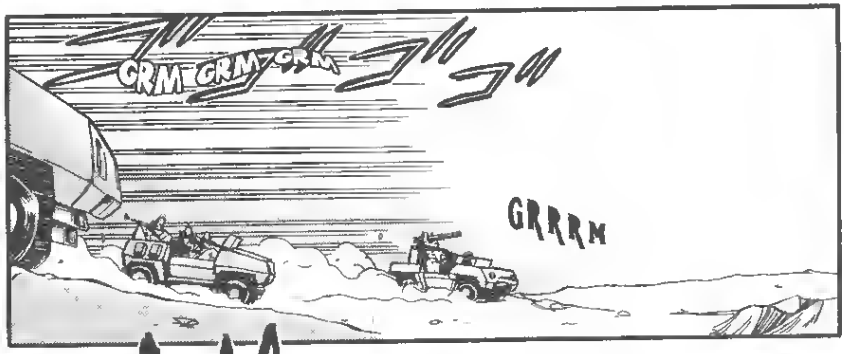


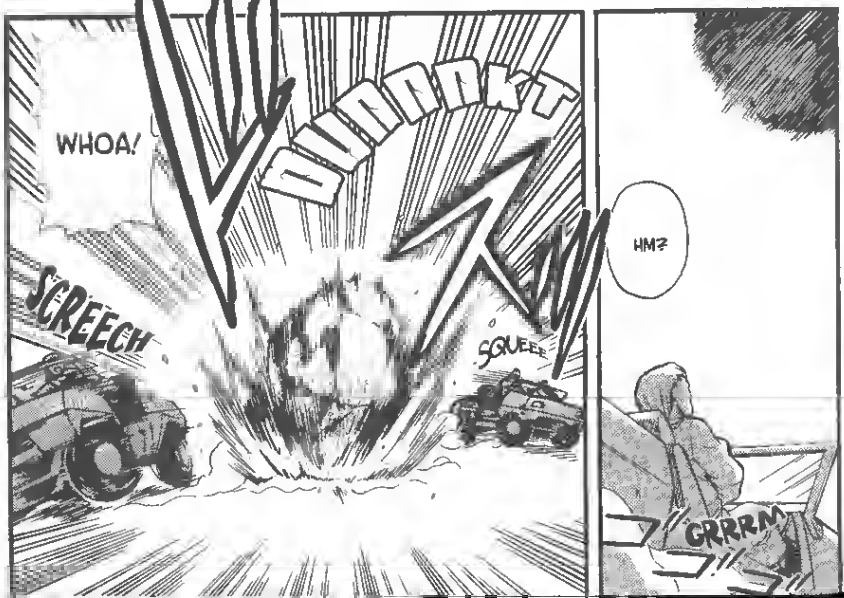
SOUNDS LIKE A VEHICLE OF SOME SORT...
WHAT IS IT...?

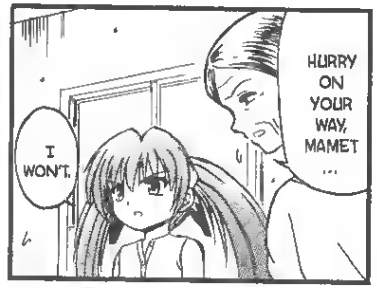
... UNH?
ILLIAN.


CAN YOU GIVE ME A HAND, MAMET?
OKAY.

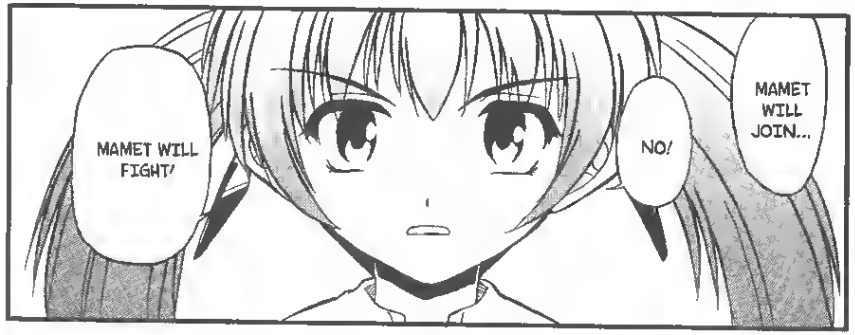
THIS IS THE CODE USED BY THE MARTIAN ARMY. I'LL GIVE YOU COMMANDS UNDER THIS BRAINWAVE FREQUENCY.
CAN YOU HEAR ME, MAMET?
TWIK


GRM GRM GRM
GRRRM

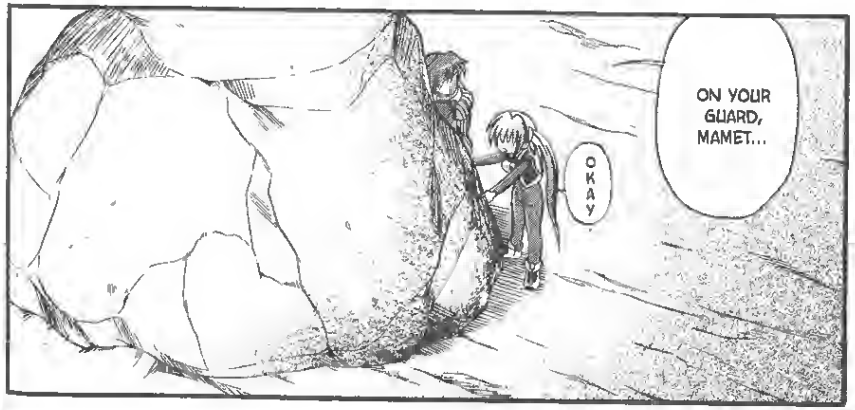

WHOA!
KUNNAK
SCREECH
SQUEEE
HM?
GRRRM

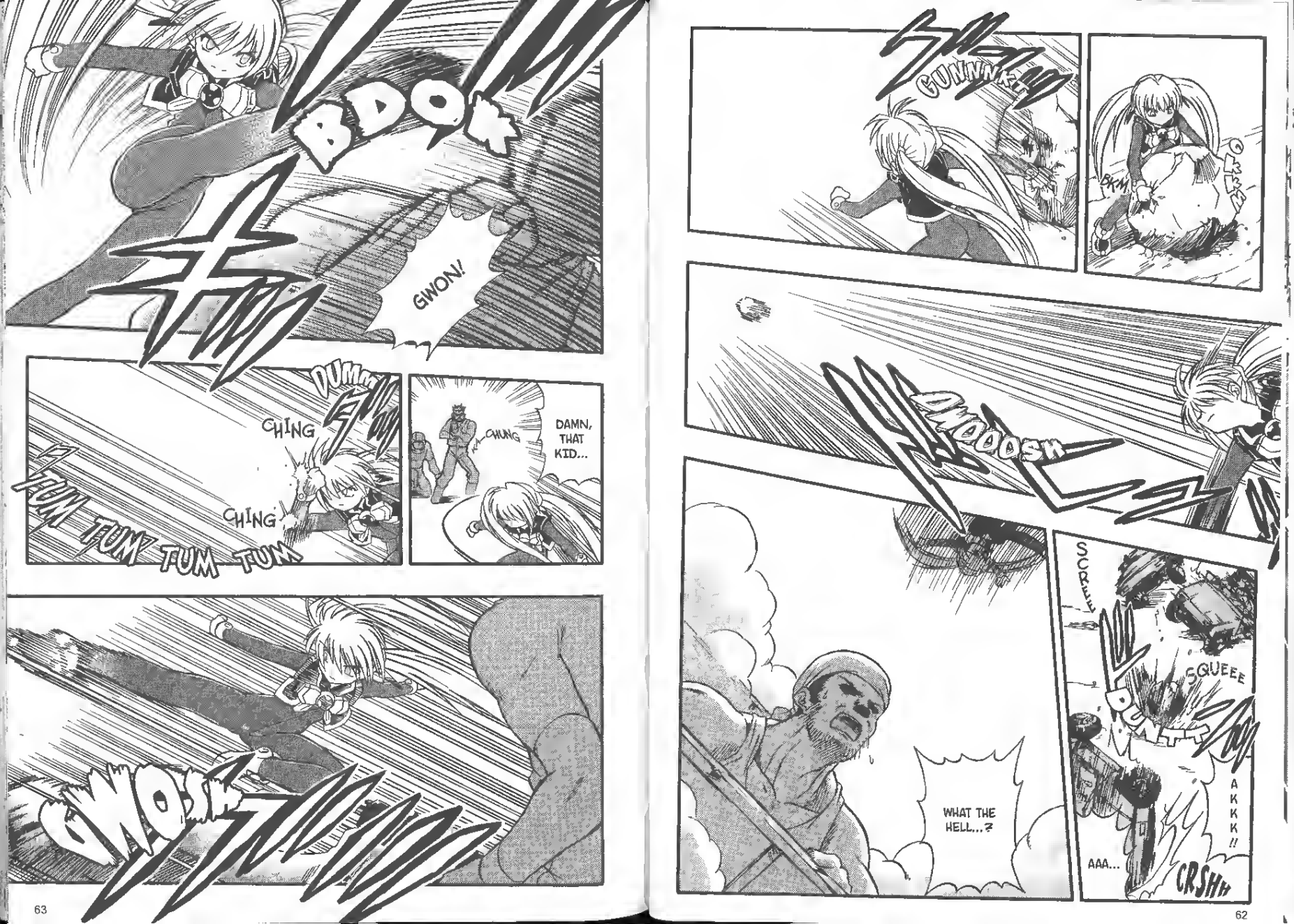

I WON'T.
HURRY ON YOUR WAY, MAMET ...

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SHOULD LEAVE WITH MAMET.
WE HAVE NO FUTURE AHEAD OF US... EVEN IF WE LEFT THE TOWN, WHERE WOULD WE GO?


MAMET WILL FIGHT!
NO!
MAMET WILL JOIN...

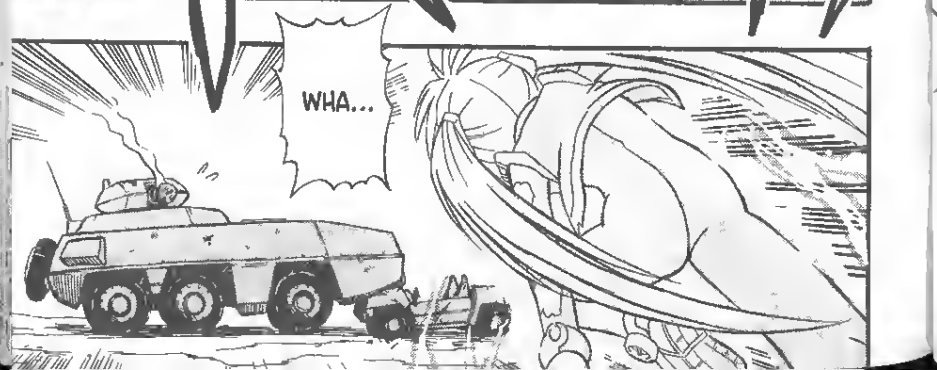
GRM GRM GRM


ON YOUR GUARD, MAMET...
OKAY

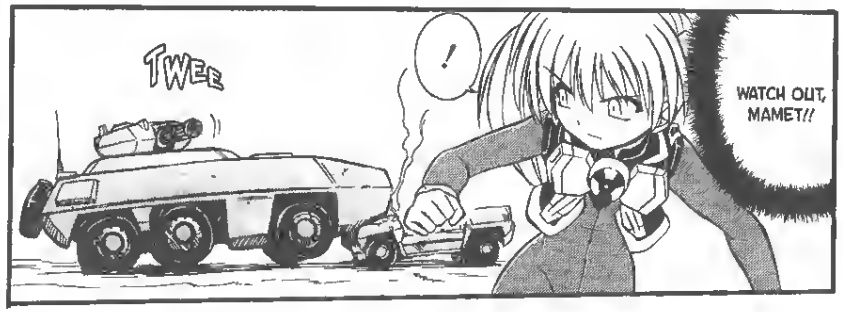

GUNNK!
BKM
GYAK!
WHOOOOSH
SUCK!!!
SQUEEE
PUNCH
AKKK!!
AAA...
CRSH
WHAT THE HELL...?
BDOK
GWON!
DUMM
CHING
CHING
TUM TUM TUM TUM
CHUNG
DAMN, THAT KID...
GWOSH

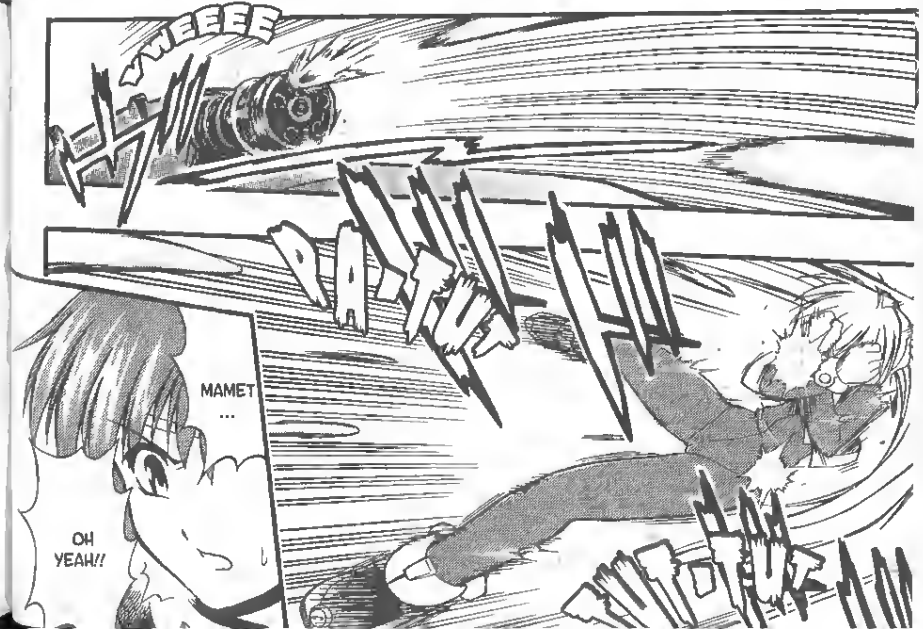
MAMET!!
BIO-REACTOR
MAXIMUM
OUTPUT!
HIGH-VOLTAGE
DISCHARGE!!

KRAKK


WHA...

!
DGSH
THAT'S
IT,
KEEP
GOING!
BTOK


TWEE
!
WATCH OUT,
MAMET!!


WEEEE
MAMET
...
OH
YEAH!!

MAMET...
N-NOOOOO!!

IF I DON'T, THEY'LL COME AGAIN/ AND THAT OLD COUPLE WILL BE IN DANGER!!
OF COURSE HE'S GONNA DIE... I HAVE TO KILL HIM!!

HE'S GONNA DIE!
DON'T SHOOT!

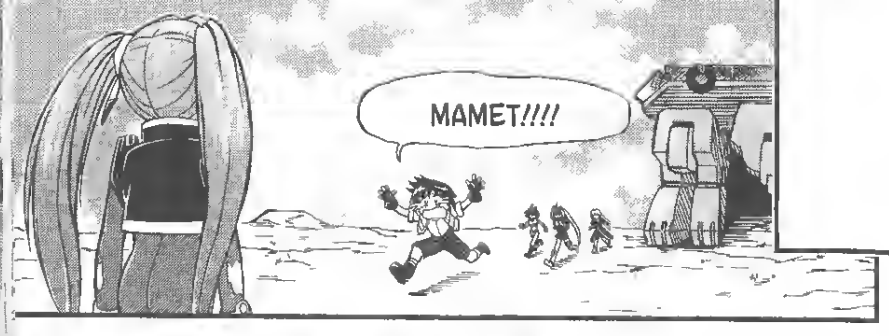
DON'T KILL THEM... PLEASE!!
THEN LET'S TAKE GRANNY AND GRANDPA TO ANOTHER TOWN!!

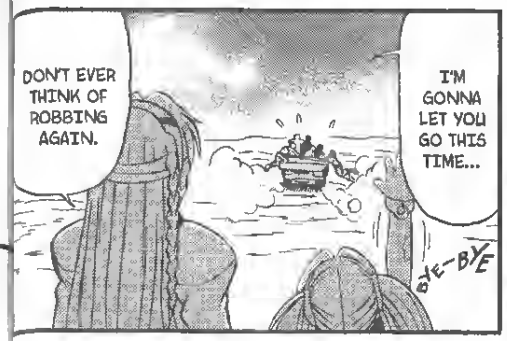
GYAKKK...
P-SHOOT

GOOD JOB, MAMET...
TINGLE TINGLE
PHEW!

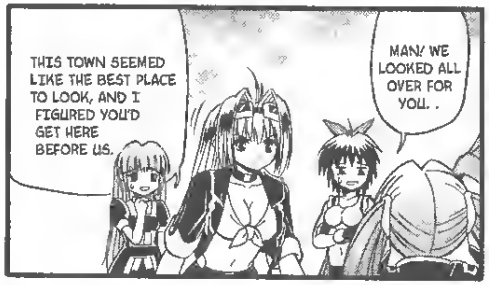
KA-CHUNK
YOU'RE FINISHED
UGH...

UGH...
GAKKT!


MAMET!!!!


DON'T EVER THINK OF ROBBING AGAIN.
I'M GONNA LET YOU GO THIS TIME...
BYE-BYE

ALL RIGHT ...
.....

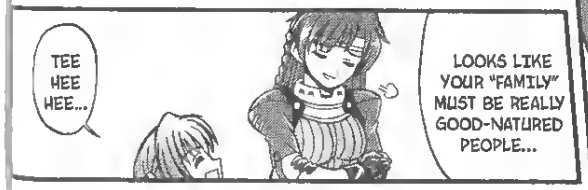

THIS TOWN SEEMED LIKE THE BEST PLACE TO LOOK, AND I FIGURED YOU'D GET HERE BEFORE US.
MAN! WE LOOKED ALL OVER FOR YOU. .

SQWUEE!
I'M SO SORREEEY! I SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN MY EYES OFF YOU.

GRINN

I KNOW YOUR MAIN PURPOSE IS INVESTIGATION
BUT WERE YOU REALLY MADE ON MARS?

OW!
SONK

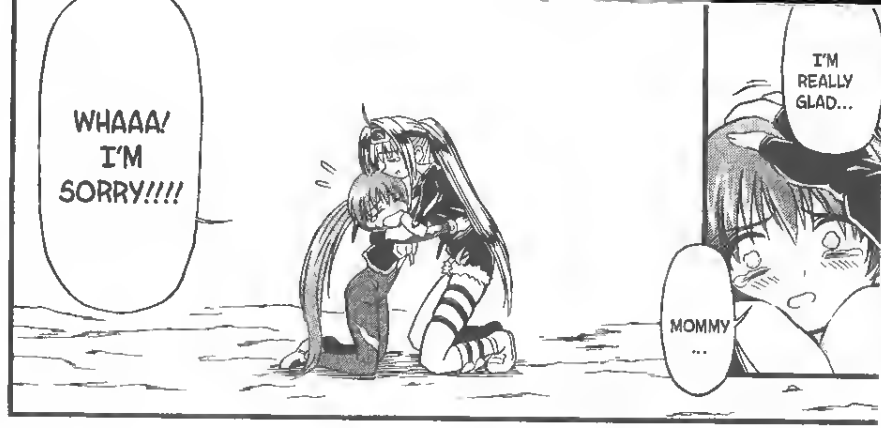

TEE HEE HEE...
LOOKS LIKE YOUR "FAMILY" MUST BE REALLY GOOD-NATURED PEOPLE...

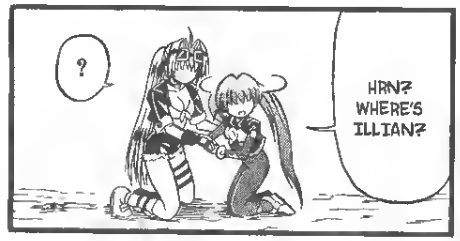
BUT... I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE OKAY.

I'M SORRY...
MAMET! I TOLD YOU TO KEEP AWAY FROM DANGER WHENEVER POSSIBLE!!

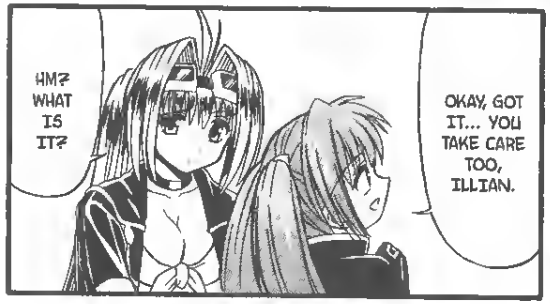
THEY CAME TO GET ME!!
IT'S THE TRAILER!
I REC-OGNIZE IT!
WHAT?
THAT SOUND?
TWITCH
OH!

AND THERE WAS A GRANNY AND A GRANDPA IN THAT TOWN AND...


WHAAA! I'M SORRY!!!!
MOMMY ...
I'M REALLY GLAD...

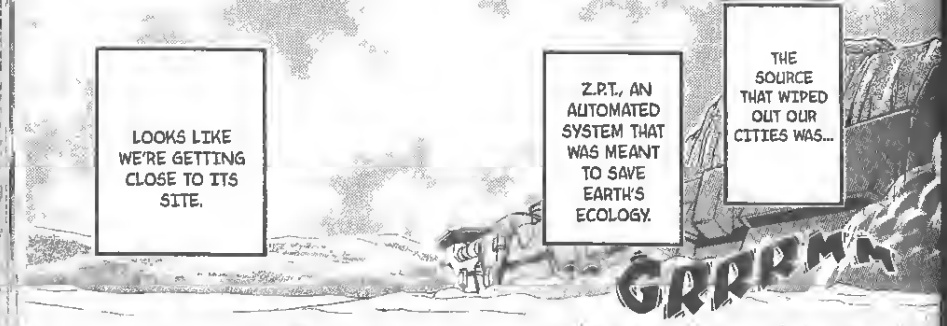

?
HRN? WHERE'S ILLIAN?

SAY ...
OH YEAH ...


HM? WHAT IS IT?
OKAY, GOT IT... YOU TAKE CARE TOO, ILLIAN.

I'VE GOTTA RUN...
MAMET, TAKE CARE OF GRANNY AND GRANDPA.

OH, NOTHING!

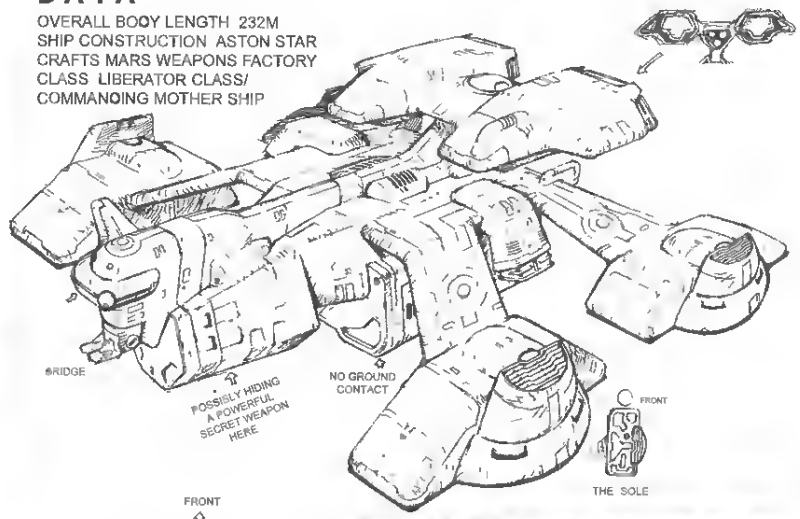

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GETTING CLOSE TO ITS SITE.
Z.P.T., AN AUTOMATED SYSTEM THAT WAS MEANT TO SAVE EARTH'S ECOLOGY.
THE SOURCE THAT WIPED OUT OUR CITIES WAS...
GRRRM

SETTING DATA FILE:8

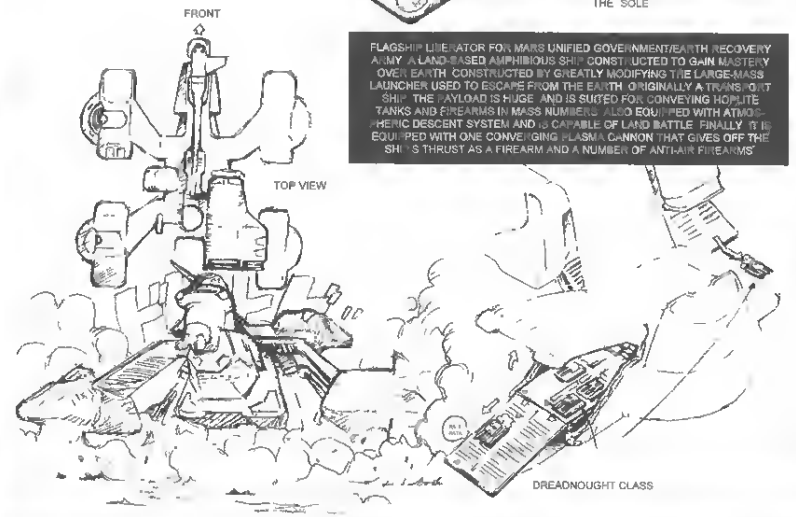
LIBERATOR

DATA

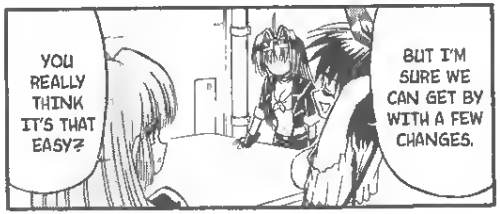
OVERALL BODY LENGTH 232M
SHIP CONSTRUCTION ASTON STAR CRAFTS MARS WEAPONS FACTORY
CLASS LIBERATOR CLASS/ COMMANDING MOTHER SHIP

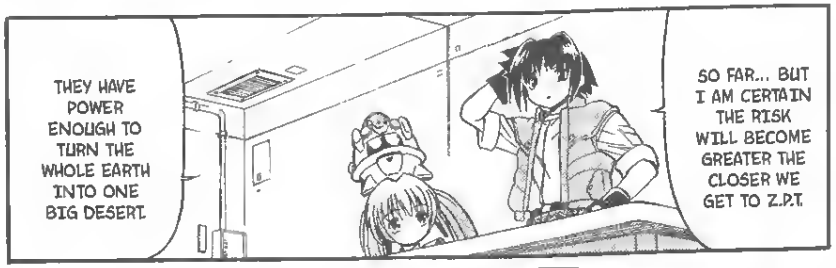


FLAGSHIP LIBERATOR FOR MARS UNIFIED GOVERNMENT/EARTH RECOVERY ARMY. A LAND-BASED AMPHIBIOUS SHIP CONSTRUCTED TO GAIN MASTERY OVER EARTH. CONSTRUCTED BY GREATLY MODIFYING THE LARGE-MASS LAUNCHER USED TO ESCAPE FROM THE EARTH. ORIGINALLY A TRANSPORT SHIP. THE PAYLOAD IS HUGE, AND IS SUITED FOR CONVEYING HOPLITE TANKS AND FIREARMS IN MASS NUMBERS. ALSO EQUIPPED WITH ATMOSPHERIC DESCENT SYSTEM AND IS CAPABLE OF LAND BATTLE. FINALLY, IT IS EQUIPPED WITH ONE CONVERGING PLASMA CANNON THAT GIVES OFF THE SHIP'S THRUST AS A FIREARM AND A NUMBER OF ANTI-AIR FIREARMS.



THIS MAP IS OVER 30 YEARS OLD...
THE TERRAIN HAS SHIFTED AND CHANGED SINCE THEN.
CAN'T SAY FOR SURE. THE ONLY DECENT MAPS WERE MADE BEFORE THE WAR STARTED.




THEY HAVE POWER ENOUGH TO TURN THE WHOLE EARTH INTO ONE BIG DESERT.
SO FAR... BUT I AM CERTAIN THE RISK WILL BECOME GREATER THE CLOSER WE GET TO Z.P.T.

YEAH, AND WE MIGHT RUN INTO THEM AGAIN.
IT SEEMS THAT PEOPLE FROM MARS ARE AFTER Z.P.T. TOO...
WE SHOULD EXPECT Z.P.T. TO HAVE DEFENSE MECHANISMS.
"SAND ROOTER"...

#15 REFLECTIONS

WHERE EVER IT MAY BE, IT'S MOSTLY IN THE TRAILER.
WHAK
BLOSSOM INTO LOVE...? WHERE DID YOU LEARN A PHRASE LIKE THAT?
WHA...!
SO, HOW DID MOMMY AND DADDY'S RELATIONSHIP BLOSSOM INTO LOVE?

YOU GUYS.../
YEAH, LIKE, "THIS IS HOW MOMMY AND DADDY MET EACH OTHER, FELL IN LOVE, AND MAMET CAME TO LIFE!"
YOU MEAN YOU HAVEN'T TOLD HER SUCH AN IMPORTANT THING?

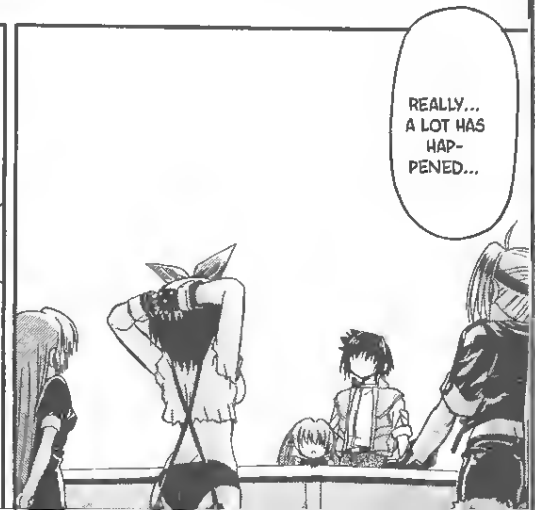
TELL ME TELL ME TELL ME TELL ME TELL ME TELL ME TELL ME TELL ME TELL ME TELL ME TELL ME TELL METELL ME TELL ME...
TUG TUG
AIEEE
I DOOOO! I WANNA KNOW!
HUH? WELL...YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE HER TO LISTEN...
W-WELL, IT'S NOT SOMETHING WE HAVE TO HIDE... RIGHT?
OWWW

RIGHT-ON!
AW... YOU'RE GONNA SPILL IT?
YES... IT WAS A COLD NIGHT WHEN WE ARRIVED AT THAT VILLAGE...

WE CAN DO THIS... AS LONG AS WE'RE TOGETHER.
WE'VE FACED OVERWHELMING ODDS BEFORE.
I AM FULLY AWARE OF THE DANGER

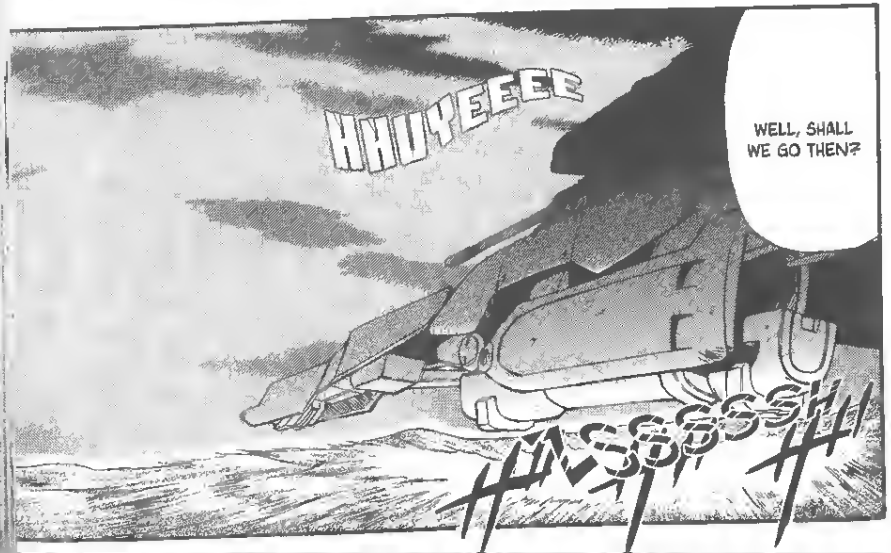
UGH... THAT GUY WITH THE BEARD.
SMIRK
SOMEONE PROPOSED TO WOOTY!
I'D HATE TO RUN INTO THOSE MARTIAN FELLAS AGAIN.
YEAH... WE'VE HAD ENOUGH DRAMA TO MAKE ME SICK!

UGH...
LOOKING BACK, NOTHING GOOD REALLY EVER HAPPENED TO LOUIS.
NACKK
WHOOOA
DRIP DRIP
W-WHAT ARE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT?!
IT'S STILL BAFFLING WHY LIZA FELL FOR HIM.


REALLY... A LOT HAS HAP-PENED...

AND THEY WON'T LET US SHARE THEIR WATER.
BUT THE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE WILL BE DRIED UP IF WE DON'T.
SO WE HAVE NO CHOICE.
YOU MAKE US LOOK LIKE BANDITS SAYING IT LIKE THAT ...
LET'S GET THE "TREASURE" AND BE ON OUR WAY, OKAY?

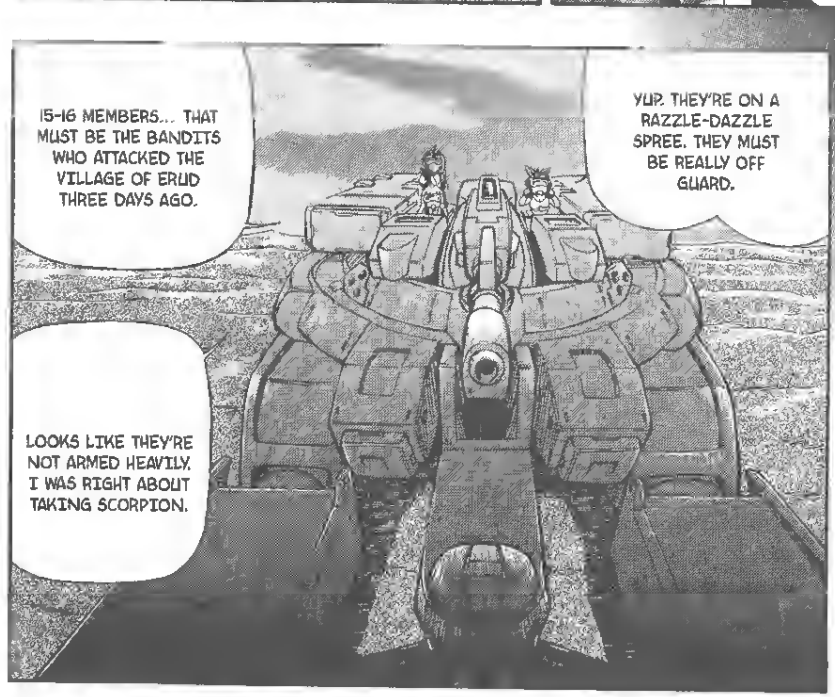
OF COURSE I'M ITCHING TO DO THIS!!
HEH-HEH-HEH
WE'RE HELPING PEOPLE BY BEATING THE CRAP OUT OF A BAD LOT AND WE'RE ALSO GETTING FOOD AND WATER!!
JUST DO IT IN MODERATEON...
WHAC
OH I KNOW YOU'RE JUST ITCHING TO GO ON A RAMPAGE...
CRACKLE-KRACK
REALLY... IT'S THE BANDITS' FAULT THAT WE HAVE TO RESORT TO THIS NEEDLESS VIOLENCE...


HHUYEEEE
WELL, SHALL WE GO THEN?
HHSSSSSSHH

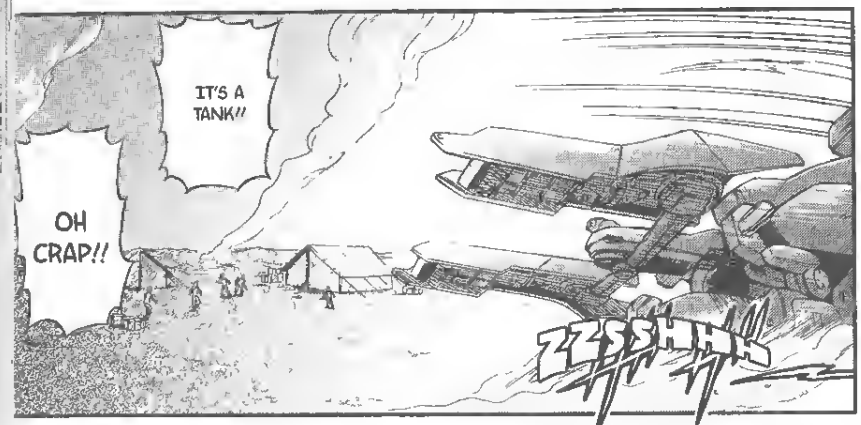
FOUND IT!
VERY NASTY, WOOTY...
SNIFF
BRRRR... GETTING CHILLY...

ACHOO!

LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE HAVING A BALL.


15-16 MEMBERS... THAT MUST BE THE BANDITS WHO ATTACKED THE VILLAGE OF ERUD THREE DAYS AGO.
YUP. THEY'RE ON A RAZZLE-DAZZLE SPREE. THEY MUST BE REALLY OFF GUARD.
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE NOT ARMED HEAVILY. I WAS RIGHT ABOUT TAKING SCORPION.

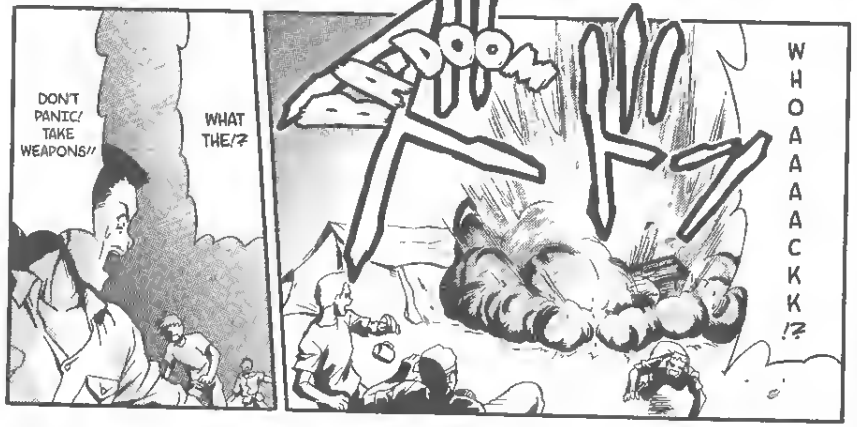
!
HYUUUUU

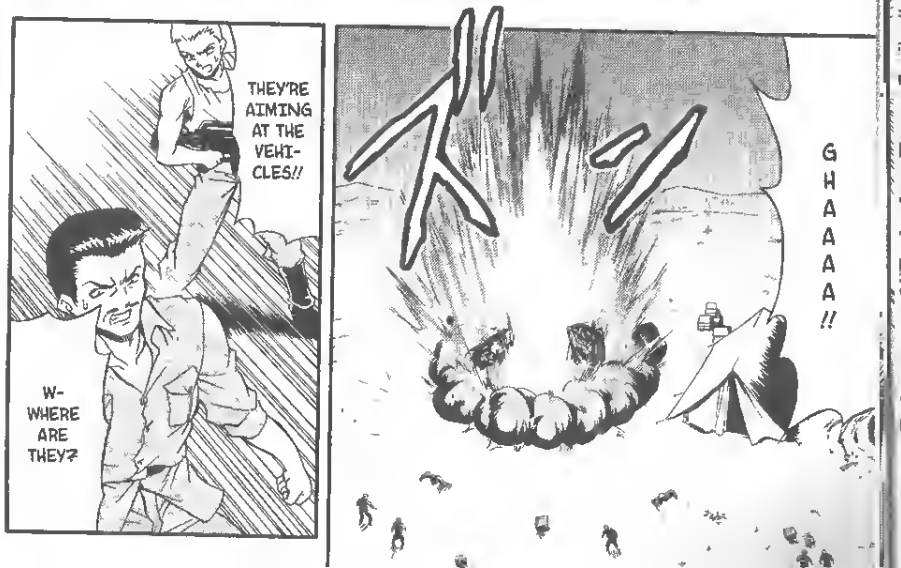

IT'S A TANK!!
OH CRAP!!
ZZSSHHH!!

THAT'S A KID SPEAKING... HEY, DON'T YOU LEAVE NOW!!
IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY, WE'RE GOING TO SHOOT YOU!
HELLO BANDITS AND BANDITOS, PLEASE LEAVE EVERYTHING YOU TOOK AND RUN FOR YOUR LIVES.
CHECK ONE, TWO... TESTING, TESTING.

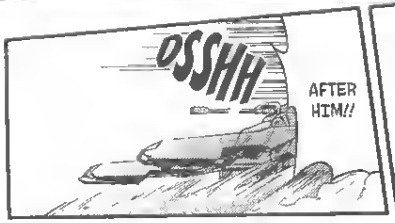
AW, COME ON MAN... THAT'S IT...?
BRRRRRM
DAMN IT! DON'T LEAVE ME!

HOOT HOO
HA-HAHAHA


DON'T PANIC! TAKE WEAPONS!!
WHAT THE!?
DOOM
WHOAAAAACKK!?


W-WHERE ARE THEY?
THEY'RE AIMING AT THE VEHI-CLES!!
GHAAAA!!

DSSHH


DSSHH
AFTER HIM!!

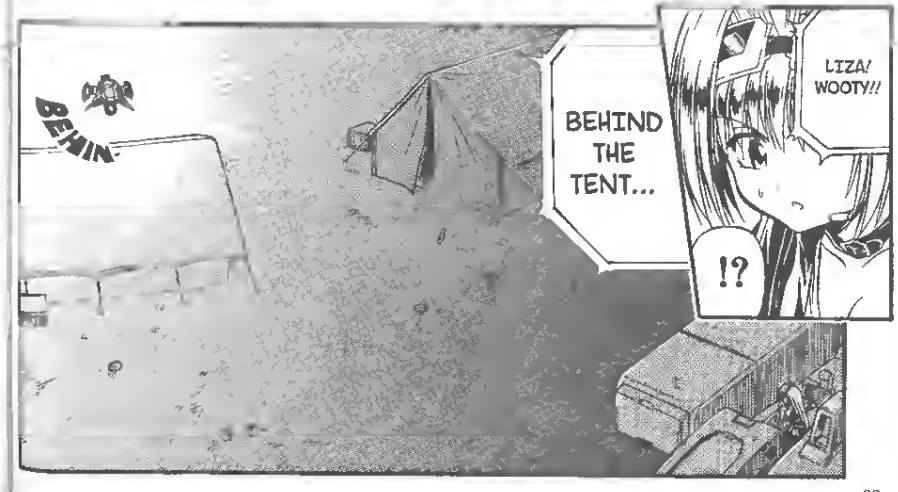
NO... WE CAN'T LET HIM GET TO THE OTHERS...!
WHAT THE HELL? AN AIRCRAFT?

GWOOOOOSH
HE'S WIDENING THE GAP!!
HEY! WE CAN'T CATCH UP WITH HIM!!
NO CHOICE WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!!

MANY OF THEM HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO JOIN AND POOL THEIR RESOURCES TO MAKE ENDS MEET.
SO I'M GLAD THEY RAN AWAY.

WELL, I'M SURE THERE ARE TOUGHER BANDITS OUT THERE.
WHAT A BUNCH OF CHEAP-ASSES.

CAREFUL... THERE STILL MAY BE SOMEONE HIDING.
THEY SHOULD'VE STOCKED THIS PLACE WITH PLENTY OF WATER, FOOD AND FUEL...

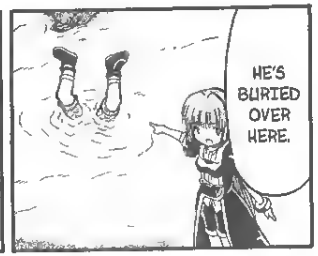

BEHIN
BEHIND THE TENT...
LIZA! WOOTY!!
!?

!
DOOOM
BCHING
THAT'S IT! LIZA BLOCKED THE WAY COMPLETELY!!
ROARRRR
SCREE SCREE
GWOOOF

KYWOOOM!
YOW!
WOOTY! PASS ME THE FIREARMS!
LET ME TRY!!
HE DODGED IT! HE READ RIGHT THROUGH US?
SHH
HEY!
DOOM
DK-WOOF
GO!!
I'LL TRY NOT TO HIT IT...
GRIP

GREAT SPEED THOUGH.
IT DOESN'T LOOK MILITARY ...PROBABLY HOME-MADE.

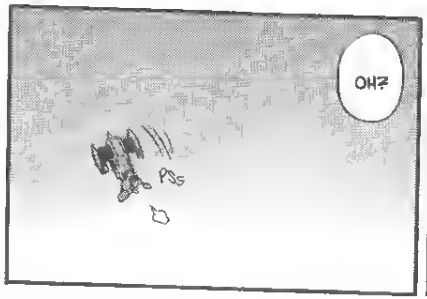
WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE HIM HERE.
WE SHOULD BURY HIM.
WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST WE DO?


HE'S BURIED OVER HERE.

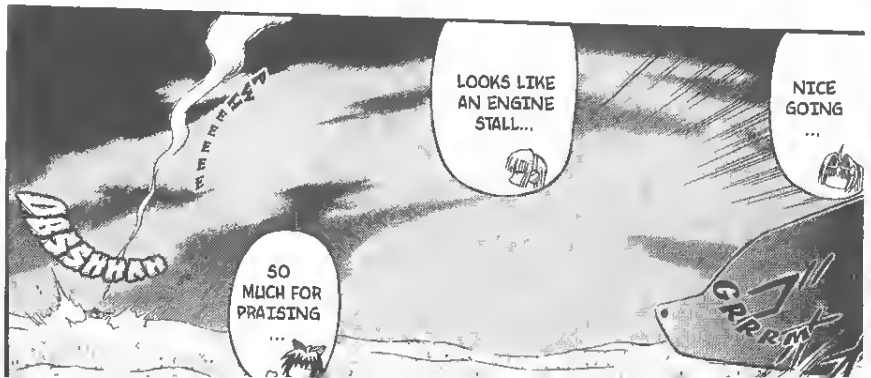
READY... AND PULL!

HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE BANDIT-TYPE.
HE'S PALE TOO...
HUHHH? THIS GUY'S JUST A KID.

DODGED AGAIN...
NOT BAD..
DOOOM!

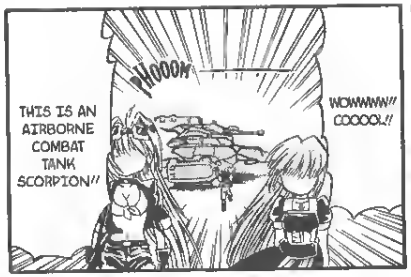

OH?

HE'S GETTING AWAY... HRN?
bpp
BBBPP

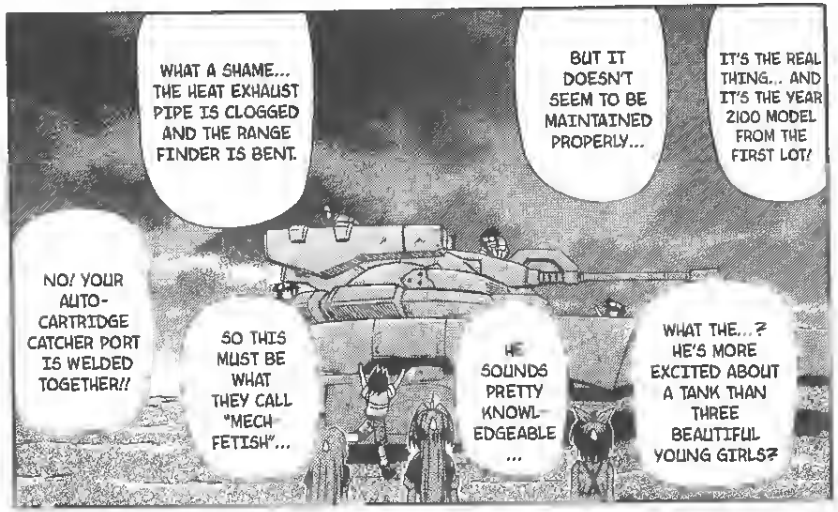

LOOKS LIKE AN ENGINE STALL...
NICE GOING ...
SO MUCH FOR PRAISING ...
GRRR

THEN IT CAME, THIS WHITE SAND STORM AND...
!
BUT...
I WAS LIVING IN REGENERATED CITY "C-24"
I WAS...
SO WHAT, YOU THINK HE WAS KIDNAPPED?
I SEE...
OWW!
GEEZ
WE'RE NOT BANDITS!!
BUT NOW I'VE BEEN CAUGHT BY MORE BANDITS...
THEY USED ME LIKE A RAT... AND I WAS WAITING FOR THE CHANCE TO ESCAPE.
YEAH ...
SO THE CITY VANISHED AND WHILE YOU WERE WANDERING, YOU WERE CAUGHT BY BANDITS. THEY MADE YOU THEIR ERRAND BOY.
YOU MEAN... YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT SAND STORM? YOU BELIEVE MY STORY?
OH YEAH! HOW DID YA MANAGE TO ESCAPE IT?
GWOSH GWOSH
WHA ...?
WELL, WHAT ARE THE CHANCES WE'D RUN INTO ANOTHER SURVIVOR OF A "SAND ROOTER" ATTACK.

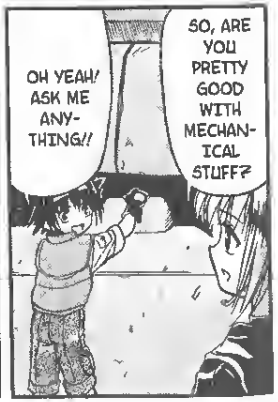
UNHUH
!
OH? HE'S AWAKE.
YOU BANDIT'S THUMB ANYMORE!!
I-I'M NOT GONNA BE UNDER...
AAAAAAKKK!
S-S-STAY BAAACK!!
?
...HUH?
HNH?
WAIT A SEC. NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, HE CAN'T POSSIBLY BE A BANDIT
ISN'T HE ONE OF THE VILLAGE PEOPLE?
EEK
TUG
HEY... I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE BANDIT.


PHOOOM
THIS IS AN AIRBORNE COMBAT TANK SCORPION!!
WOWWWW!! COOOOL!!

WHAT DO YOU THINK? WE'RE GONNA HEAD BACK TO ERUDO ONCE...
HEY...


WHAT A SHAME... THE HEAT EXHAUST PIPE IS CLOGGED AND THE RANGE FINDER IS BENT.
BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE MAINTAINED PROPERLY...
IT'S THE REAL THING... AND IT'S THE YEAR 2100 MODEL FROM THE FIRST LOT!
NO! YOUR AUTO-CARTRIDGE CATCHER PORT IS WELDED TOGETHER!!
SO THIS MUST BE WHAT THEY CALL "MECH FETISH"...
HE SOUNDS PRETTY KNOWL-EDGEABLE ...
WHAT THE...? HE'S MORE EXCITED ABOUT A TANK THAN THREE BEAUTIFUL YOUNG GIRLS?

OUTRAN EVEN THAT "WHITE SAND STORM".
I EVEN MADE THAT "JET BIKE" BY MYSELF.
HUHH... THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW.


OH YEAH! ASK ME ANY-THING!!
SO, ARE YOU PRETTY GOOD WITH MECHAN-ICAL STUFF?

OH... I SEE.
WELL, SO THAT'S HOW IT IS!
NOT THAT I WANT TO BELIEVE IT...
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, OUR TOWNS WERE WIPED OUT BY "SAND ROOTER" TOO.

WELL, I WOULD BE SURPRISED IF YOU COULD FORGET MY PRETTY FACE.

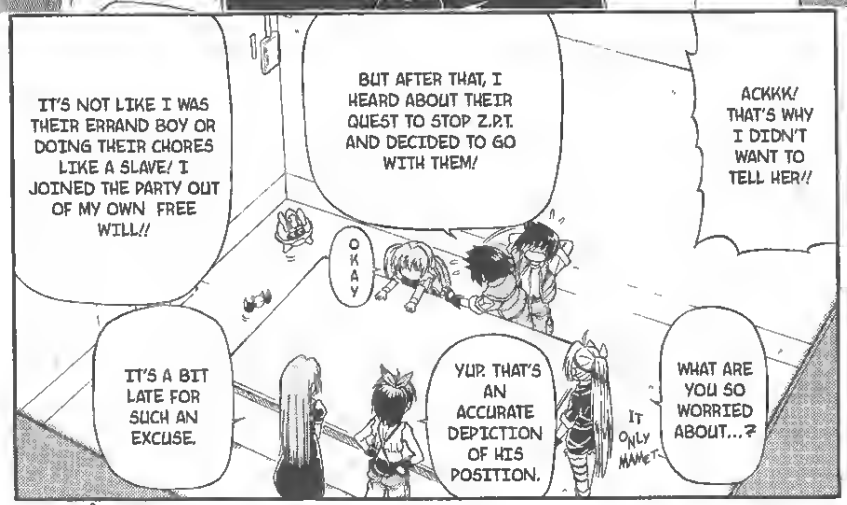
WHO'S VULGAR?! DAMN IT!
I WAS SAVED BY THAT VULGAR TRANSMIS-SION...

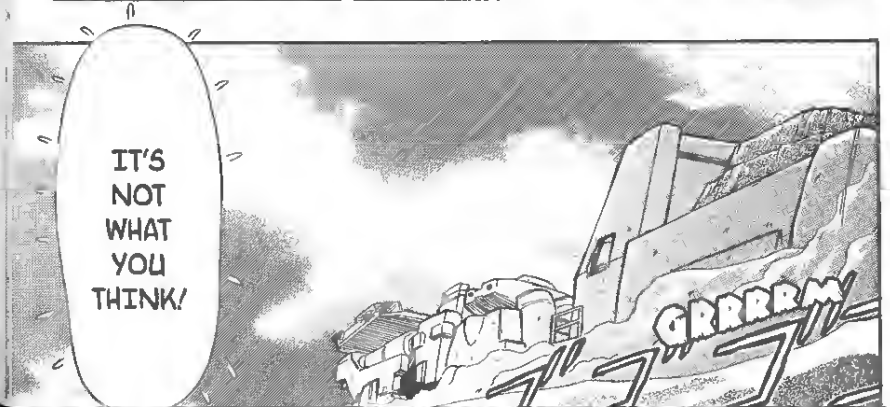
HEY! YOU WERE THAT GIRL IN THE TRANS-MISSION...
C-24 WAS ONE OF THE TOWNS WE HAD ISSUED A WARNING TO BUT WERE TOO LATE.
OH! YOU REMEM-BER.

YOU KNOW A SPOILED BOY LIKE HIM WON'T LAST THE NIGHT IF WE LEAVE HIM HERE.
..SOOO. WHAT Y'ALL WANNA DO WITH HIM?
YOU'RE RIGHT...
SNIFF
WAS TEE

CHOO!!

NOT COOL...
...DADDY, YOU'RE LIKE...


IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS THEIR ERRAND BOY OR DOING THEIR CHORES LIKE A SLAVE! I JOINED THE PARTY OUT OF MY OWN FREE WILL!!
BUT AFTER THAT, I HEARD ABOUT THEIR QUEST TO STOP Z.P.T. AND DECIDED TO GO WITH THEM!
ACKKK! THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL HER!!
OKAY
IT'S A BIT LATE FOR SUCH AN EXCUSE.
YUP. THAT'S AN ACCURATE DEPICTION OF HIS POSITION.
IT ONLY MAKES
WHAT ARE YOU SO WORRIED ABOUT...?


IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
GRRRRM

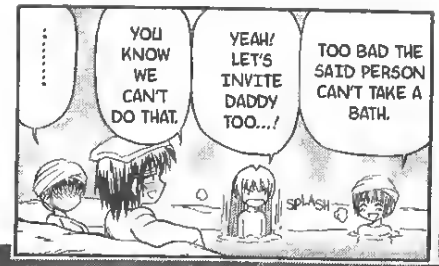
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AND "MAYBE I CAN PASS THE BUCK TO HIM FROM TANK MAINTENANCE TO LOOKOUT AND STUFF..."
WOOTY... YOU'RE THINKING, "WE'VE PICKED UP A HANDY HELPER."

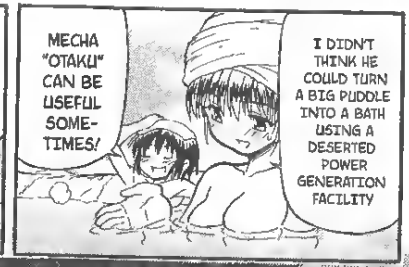
N-NO I'M NOT...!
TUNKA-TUNK
I WISH HE WERE A BIT CUTER!"
I BET YOU ARE THE ONE THINKING...

WE'LL THINK ABOUT THIS LATER.
ANYWAY... WE'LL LOAD THE TANK AND HEAD BACK.
ROGER.
YEAH, LET'S DO THAT.

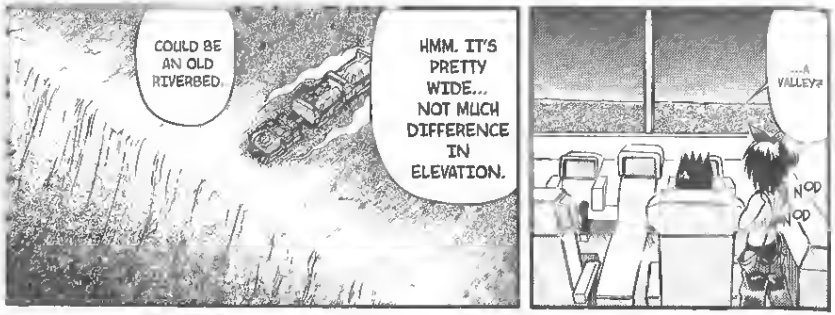
I'M SO SORRY...
LOUIS...
HGH? WHAT?
REALLY? I DON'T MIND AT ALL.
B-BUT I CAN'T TAKE A BATH WITH YOU GUYS...
FOR ALWAYS LEAVING YOU OUT...
LA LA LA LIZA. W-W-WHAT IS IT?
PRIP PRIP
TAP
HERE...
LA-LIZA... YOU SHOULDN'T
P-TUP
CAN YOU FEEL MY HEART POUNDING WITH EXCITEMENT...?
BWOOST

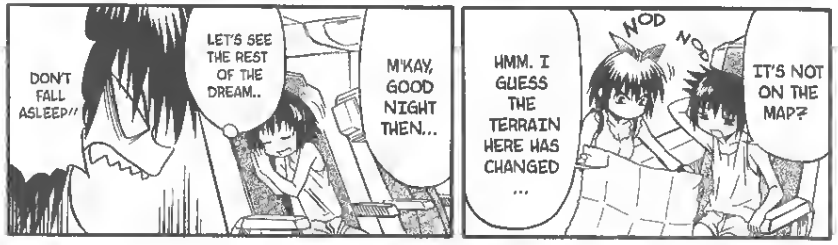
KAPLUUNK
UUHHH...

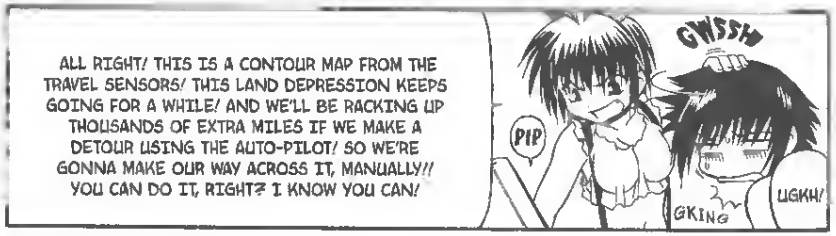

.....
YOU KNOW WE CAN'T DO THAT.
YEAH! LET'S INVITE DADDY TOO...!
TOO BAD THE SAID PERSON CAN'T TAKE A BATH.
SPLASH

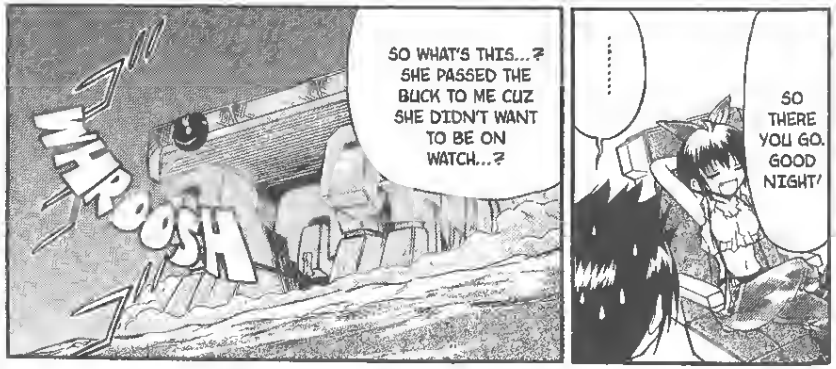

MECHA "OTAKU" CAN BE USEFUL SOME-TIMES!
I DIDN'T THINK HE COULD TURN A BIG PUDDLE INTO A BATH USING A DESERTED POWER GENERATION FACILITY

YAK-TAK
SNIFF
LOUIS...
STUPID WOOTY MADE IT SO I CAN UNTIE IT
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
BESIDES, HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO DO MAINTE-NANCE TIED UP LIKE THIS?
SURE, I KNOW I CAN'T TAKE A BATH WITH THEM, BUT THEY COULD'VE AT LEAST LET ME GO IN FIRST...
G-CHING G-CHING
GEEZ... I'M THE ONE WHO MADE THAT BATH...

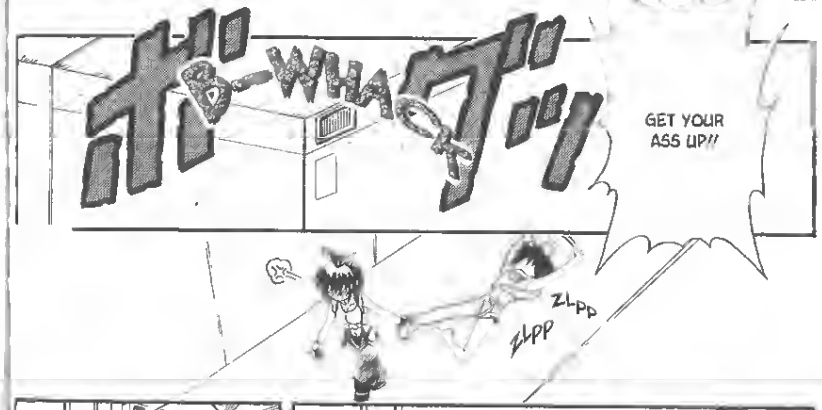

COULD BE AN OLD RIVERBED.
HMM. IT'S PRETTY WIDE... NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION.
...A VALLEY?
NOD
NOD

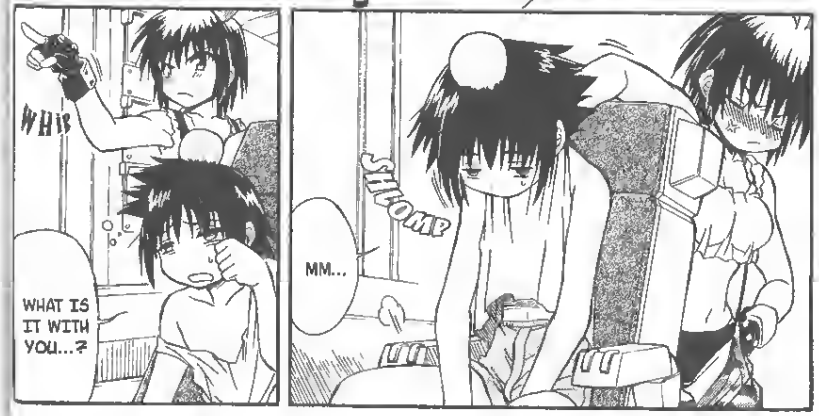

DON'T FALL ASLEEP!!
LET'S SEE THE REST OF THE DREAM..
M'KAY, GOOD NIGHT THEN...
HMM. I GUESS THE TERRAIN HERE HAS CHANGED ...
NOD
NOD
IT'S NOT ON THE MAP?


ALL RIGHT! THIS IS A CONTOUR MAP FROM THE TRAVEL SENSORS! THIS LAND DEPRESSION KEEPS GOING FOR A WHILE! AND WE'LL BE RACKING UP THOUSANDS OF EXTRA MILES IF WE MAKE A DETOUR USING THE AUTO-PILOT! SO WE'RE GONNA MAKE OUR WAY ACROSS IT, MANUALLY!! YOU CAN DO IT, RIGHT? I KNOW YOU CAN!
GWSSH
PIP
GKING
UGKH!


WHROOSH
SO WHAT'S THIS...? SHE PASSED THE BUCK TO ME CUZ SHE DIDN'T WANT TO BE ON WATCH...?
.....
SO THERE YOU GO. GOOD NIGHT!

LIZA...
ACK!!
OH... IT'S ONLY A DREAM..
IT FELT REAL FOR A DREAM THOUGH...
NUZZLE NUZZLE
TREMBLE TREMBLE

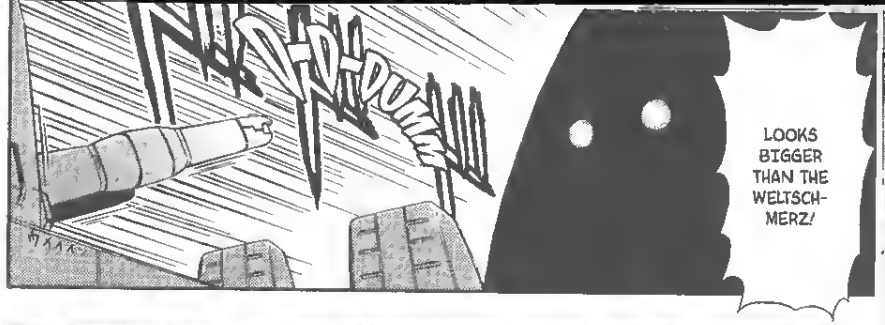

ボ-WHA-グ!!
GET YOUR ASS UP!!
ZLPP
ZLPP

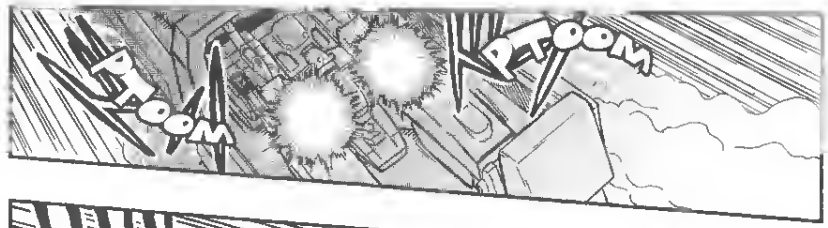

WHIP
WHAT IS IT WITH YOU...?
SHOMP
MM...

I'LL TRY ATTACKING IT WITH DREAD-NOUGHT!
WE'RE GONNA GET CRUSHED IF WE DON'T DO SOME-THING!!
DUDUDUD

IT'S CATCHING UP TO US...
DWOOOOOM
UGH... WHAT THE...?
GRRRRM
YIEEEEK!!
DAMN IT...

ARE THOSE BUILDINGS? A TOWN IN A PLACE LIKE THIS/?
OBSTACLES/?


LOOKS BIGGER THAN THE WELTSCHMERZ/


PTOOM
PTOOM

GONK
DWOOOO

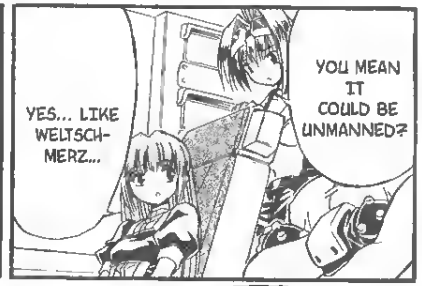
SHOOT. TRAILER'S ENGINE'S TOPPED OUT...
WHAT ARMOR/
NO EFFECT ...?
HOW COULD THAT BE...?

E-EVERYONE ALIVE...?
UGKH ...?
LIZA?
I'M OKAY... BUT...
WHAT IS THIS PLACE...?
SSSSSSHHH

I GOT IT...!!
TWIK
SCREE SCREE
GGGGGGSHH
GG-GG-GG
AAAAGGH!
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
WERE GONNA CRASH!!
GWOOOOM

IT'S LIKE IT ONLY DETECTED OUR MOVEMENT. THEY STOPPED CHASING US ONLY BECAUSE WE STOPPED MOVING...
PIP
PIP
IT JUST SIMPLY STOPPED CHASING US... WE WERE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A WHOLE NIGHT, BUT THERE WAS NO MOVEMENT.
BUT THEN, THAT MAY NOT BE THE ONLY REASON.

RIGHT...
WE CAN'T GET OUTTA HERE EVEN IF WE FIX THE TRAILER.
WELL, WE HAVE A PROBLEM.

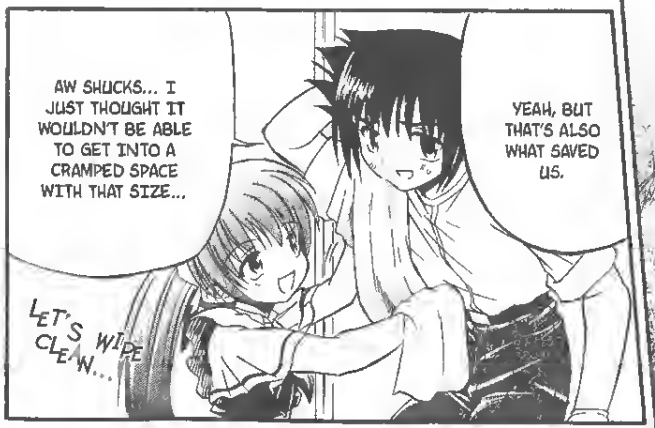

YES... LIKE WELTSCH-MERZ...
YOU MEAN IT COULD BE UNMANNED?

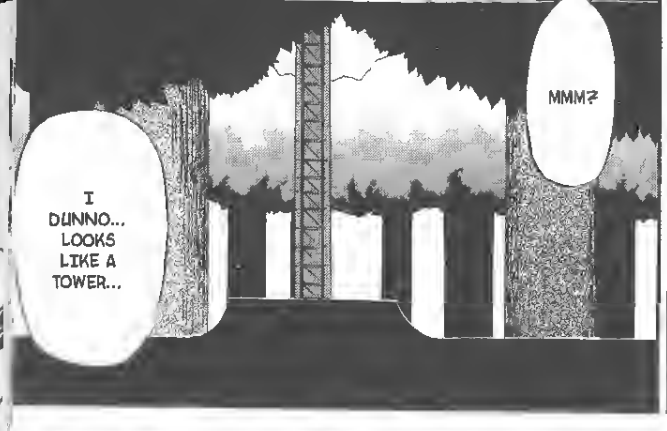
IF WE CAN'T GO BACK THEN WE NEED TO GO THROUGH THIS FOREST.

#16 SEED MAN

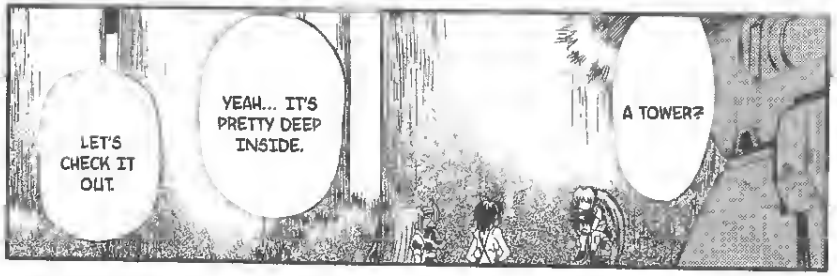
I THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO FIX IT.
THE DAMAGE'S NOT AS BAD AS I EXPECTED.
GACHK

THERE IS NO INDICATION OF THAT "THING" COMING AFTER US.
OH GOOD...
LOUIS, YOU DAREDEVIL YOU!


AW SHUCKS... I JUST THOUGHT IT WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GET INTO A CRAMPED SPACE WITH THAT SIZE...
YEAH, BUT THAT'S ALSO WHAT SAVED US.
LET'S WIPE CLEAN...

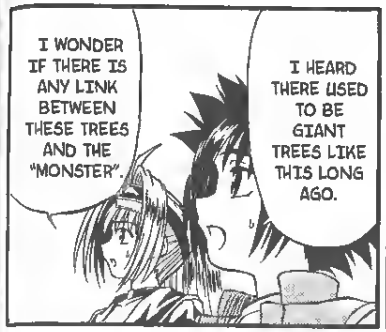

I DUNNO... LOOKS LIKE A TOWER...
MMM?

DADDY, WHAT'S THAT?
HMMM...

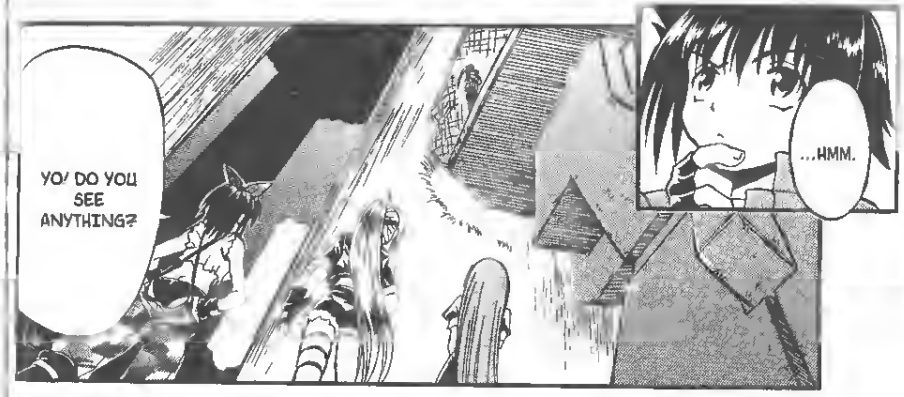

LET'S CHECK IT OUT.
YEAH... IT'S PRETTY DEEP INSIDE.
A TOWER?

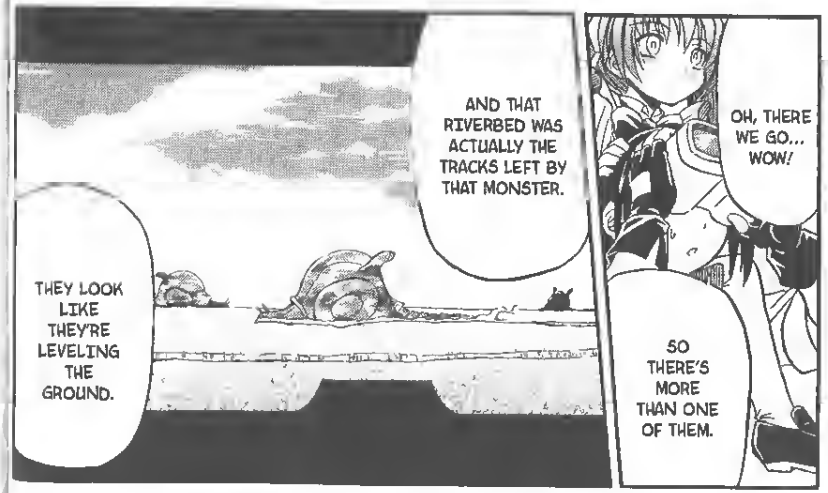
DOOOM
MAYBE WE'LL RUN INTO A GIANT AS BIG AS THESE TREES!
HUGE!
I WONDER IF ANYONE'S LIVING HERE...
YEAH RIGHT!
LIKE THIS

MAYBE THE SECRET IS INSIDE THAT TOWER.
I DON'T THINK A FOREST LIKE THIS IS NATURAL WITH THE CURRENT CONDITION OF THE EARTH.
WE MIGHT FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THOSE MONSTERS TOO.

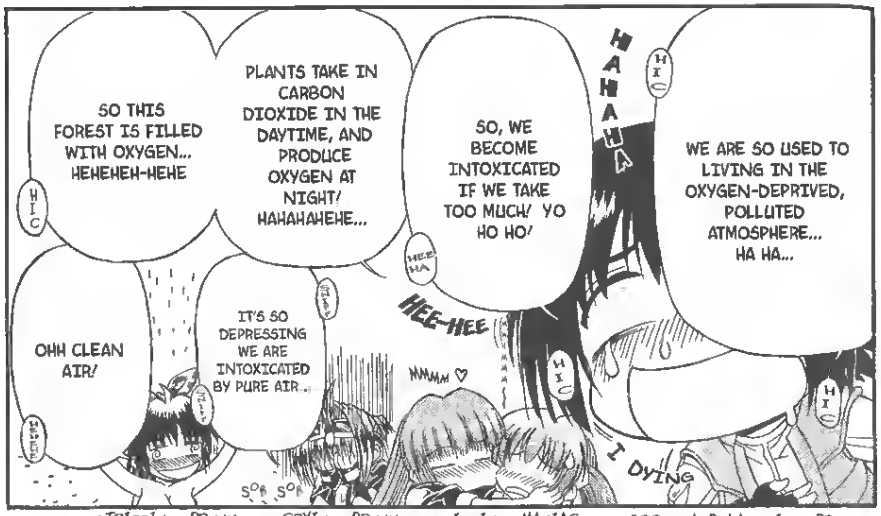

I WONDER IF THERE IS ANY LINK BETWEEN THESE TREES AND THE "MONSTER".
I HEARD THERE USED TO BE GIANT TREES LIKE THIS LONG AGO.

THIS IS A FOREST... RIGHT?
...SEEING IT IN THE LIGHT FOR THE FIRST TIME...


YO! DO YOU SEE ANYTHING?
...HMM.


THEY LOOK LIKE THEY'RE LEVELING THE GROUND.
AND THAT RIVERBED WAS ACTUALLY THE TRACKS LEFT BY THAT MONSTER.
OH, THERE WE GO... WOW!
SO THERE'S MORE THAN ONE OF THEM.

EVEN IF THERE'S A FELLA LIKE THAT, YOU CAN KNOCK HIM OUT COLD WITH YOUR HANDMADE DISH.
H-HOW COULD YOU SAY SUCH A THING!!
SHI
REALLY... IT'S LIKE WE'RE ON A DIFFERENT PLANET...
A LOT MORE TREES TOO...
I FEEL LIKE WE'VE WANDERED INTO A LAND OF GIANTS.
GEEZ... THESE WEEDS ARE GETTING TALLER THE DEEPER WE GO...
WHACK
BUT BOY... WHAT A NOSTALGIC SCENT...
REALLY... THE AIR IS SO CLEAN HERE.
ALMOST LIKE... COMING BACK TO AN OLD HOME.
YEAH... AIR MUST'VE BEEN THIS CLEAN ON THE OLD EARTH TOO.
ARE YOU CRYING, LIZA?
BUT WE CAN'T JUST STAY HERE.
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ...
SNIFF
SQUNT
STOP THAT, WOOTY.
MMMM!
MIGHT AS WELL LIVE HERE INSTEAD!
OH YEAH? WHO THE HELL ARE YOU TO TELL ME THAT, MISTER?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
EVERY-ONE'S SO.. WEIRD
WEIRD HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT ABOUT ME
LA LA
SNIFF SNIFF
H-HEY, MILL...!
STOP IT, WOOTY!
I'M RETURNING BACK TO NATURE.
I FEEL ALL FUZZY INSIDE
I FEEL LIKE...
STRIP


SO THIS FOREST IS FILLED WITH OXYGEN... HEHEHEH-HEHE
PLANTS TAKE IN CARBON DIOXIDE IN THE DAYTIME, AND PRODUCE OXYGEN AT NIGHT/ HAHAHAHEHE...
SO, WE BECOME INTOXICATED IF WE TAKE TOO MUCH/ YO HO HO/
HAHAHA
WE ARE SO USED TO LIVING IN THE OXYGEN-DEPRIVED, POLLUTED ATMOSPHERE... HA HA...
HIC
OHH CLEAN AIR/
IT'S SO DEPRESSING WE ARE INTOXICATED BY PURE AIR..
HEE-HEE
MMMM ♡
I DYING
STRIPPING DRUNK
CRYING DRUNK
KISSING MANIAC
HICCUP AND LAUGHING DRUNK

MMM
HUH...?

BANZAI!/ THE GREAT OUTDOORS/
SHLOOMF
NO...WE'RE BEING TOLD BY MAMET.
YOU GUYS/ GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF!!
OOOH. YOU'RE SOOO CUTE/
W-WE CAN'T GO ON. TAKE CARE OF THE REST, MAMET. THUMP.
NUZZLE

NOT JUST ONE OR TWO...
SNIFF
AHHH. THE GREAT OUTDOORS INDEED...
YOU SHOULD EXPECT A BUG OR TWO IN A FOREST THIS BIG. HAHAHAHAHA...
TEE HEE
BUGS... MAYBE?
HIC
WHAT ARE THOSE?

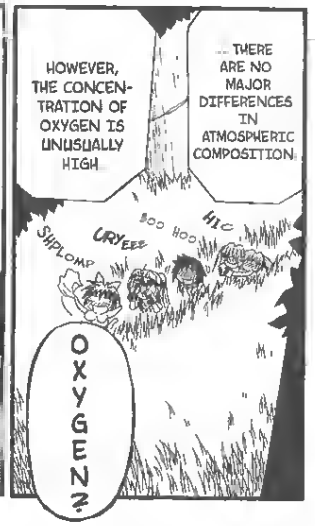
WHAT'S THIS? LOUIS' TRUE FEELINGS ARE OUT?
HOW DARE YOU/ YOU THOUGHT I WAS SUCH A COLD-HEARTED PERSON?
ARE YOU GUYS PLAYING TRICKS ON ME? CUZ THERE'S NO WAY LIZA CAN CRY THIS MUCH.
HEH-HEHEHE SUDDENLY, I'M FEELING WEIRD TOO.
TEE HEE
HE HE HE
HIC
FWAAA

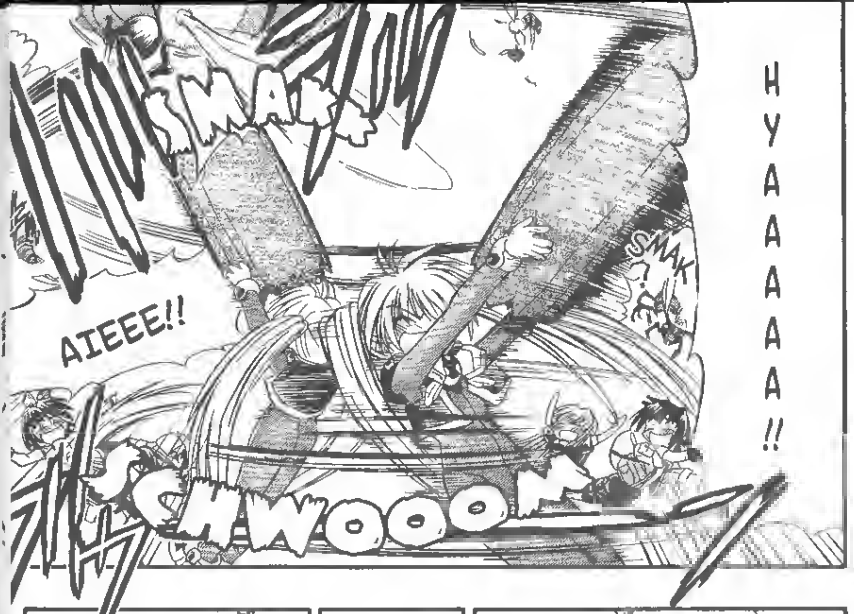
W-WHA?
H-HEY, EVERYONE'S ACTING LIKE A DRUNK...
I-HIC
HICCUP
TWITCH

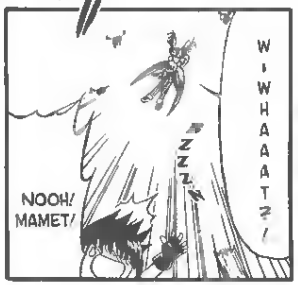
DON'T WORRY.
WEIRD...? I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE...
WOO WOO
POP, TRY TO FIND A REASON FOR THIS INTOXICATION.
HIC
SEE? TOLD YA SOMETHING'S WEIRD.
COULD BE A GAS.
PP-PIP
ROGER

WHAAAT? YOU DON'T FEEL ANYTHING, MAMET?
HIC
HIC
OOOH. YOU SAID FUNNY!
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU GUYS ARE ACTING FUNNY.

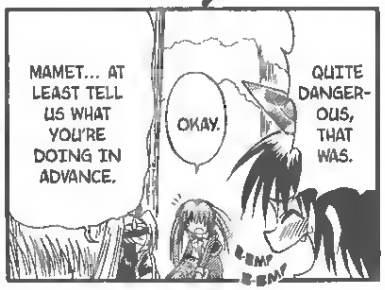
WITH OXYGEN? HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE? TELL ME WHY, PLEASE?
POISNING?
HE HE HE HE HE
OH I GET IT... "HIC". THE OXYGEN IS TOO STRONG, SO WE ARE DEVELOPING SYMPTOMS OF POISONING/ HOO-HA HA/
HIC
HIC
SNIFF
TEE


HOWEVER, THE CONCENTRATION OF OXYGEN IS UNUSUALLY HIGH
... THERE ARE NO MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN ATMOSPHERIC COMPOSITION.
SNIPLOMP
CRYEEE
BOO HOO
HIC
OXYGEN?


SMAK
AIEEE!!
SMAK
SHWOOOM
HYAAAAAA!!

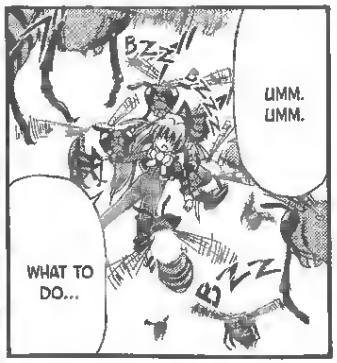

W-WHAAAAT?!
NOOH! MAMET!
ZZZ

HUH?
ZZZZ
GRA


MAMET... AT LEAST TELL US WHAT YOU'RE DOING IN ADVANCE.
OKAY.
QUITE DANGER-OUS, THAT WAS.
KYUP
KYUP

EVERYONE, I'M GONNA ZAP-ZAP!
ZAP-ZAP?
HO HO HA HA HEE HO
WHAT THE HECK?

OH YEAH.

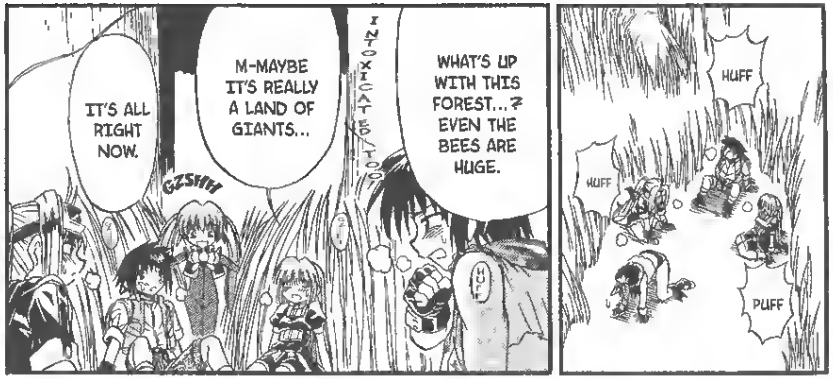

BZZZ
UMM. UMM.
WHAT TO DO...
BZZZ

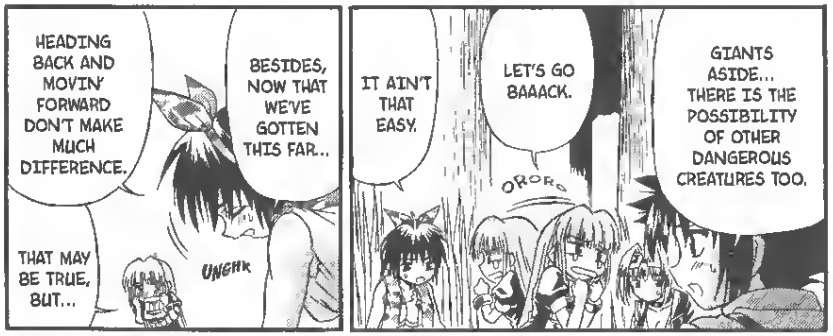
AAACKK!?
BZZZZZ

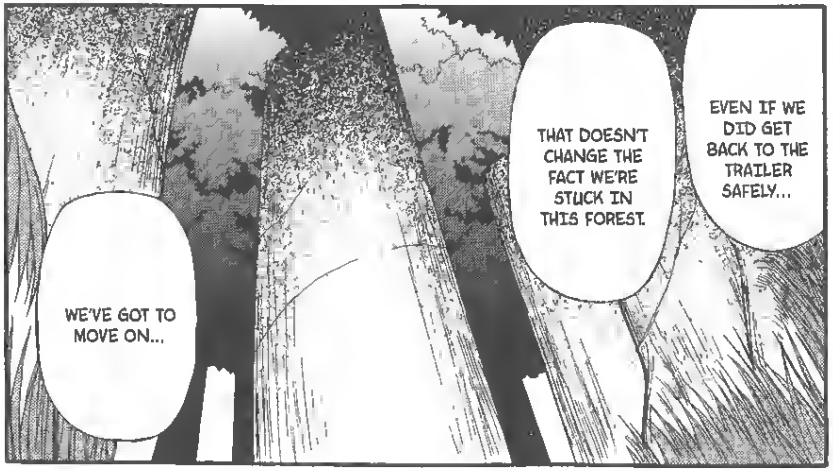
...THEN THAT MEANS THEY'RE ALL...
SNIFF
BZZZZZ
WE'RE NOT HALLUCI-NATING... ARE WE?
HIC
KYUP

HIC
IT WAS AT LEAST 3 FEET LONG.
W-W-WAIT JUST FOR A SECOND! IT WAS JUST TOO BIG, WHATEVER IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN!
HIC
BEE

RUN!!
ZSH ZSH
ZSH


IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW.
M-MAYBE IT'S REALLY A LAND OF GIANTS...
GZSHH
INDICATES TOO
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS FOREST...? EVEN THE BEES ARE HUGE.
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF


HEADING BACK AND MOVIN' FORWARD DON'T MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE.
BESIDES, NOW THAT WE'VE GOTTEN THIS FAR...
THAT MAY BE TRUE, BUT...
UNGHK
IT AIN'T THAT EASY.
LET'S GO BAAACK.
ORORO
GIANTS ASIDE... THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY OF OTHER DANGEROUS CREATURES TOO.


WE'VE GOT TO MOVE ON...
THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT WE'RE STUCK IN THIS FOREST.
EVEN IF WE DID GET BACK TO THE TRAILER SAFELY...

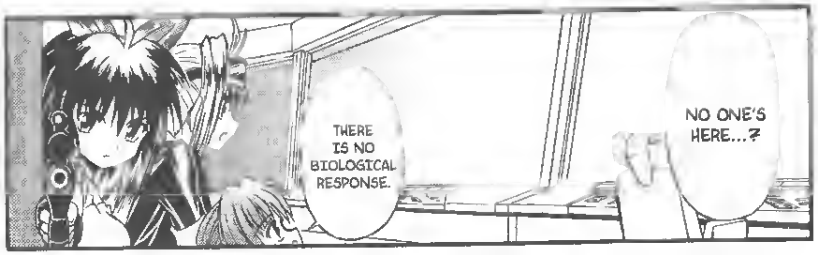
AAACKKK!?
ZZZP
ZZZPPT
WHOATAA!?

WE BETTER MAKE A RUN...
BZZZZ
KWEEEE
WHATEVER IT WAS, DOESN'T IT LOOK WORSE?

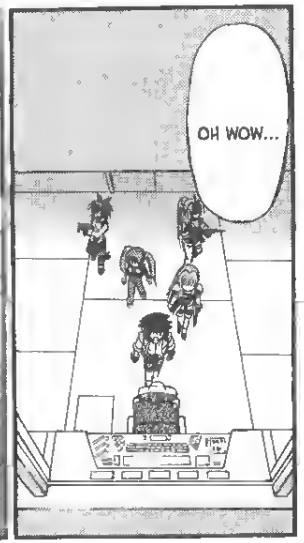
KWEEEE
THE POWER OF THE BIO-REACTOR?
WAS THAT ....
W-WHAT A SH-SH-SHOCK.

MAMET! YOU TAKE CARE OF THE REST!!

CH-K-K
CH-KNNG
PLUNG


THERE IS NO BIOLOGICAL RESPONSE.
NO ONE'S HERE...?

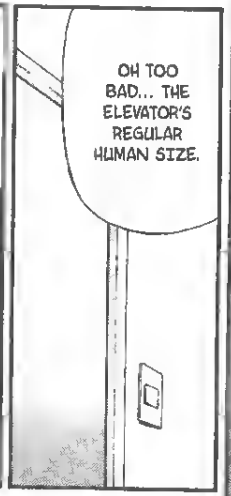
THOSE "MONSTERS" ARE OUT THERE TOO.
I CAN LOOK OVER THE ENTIRE FOREST FROM HERE...

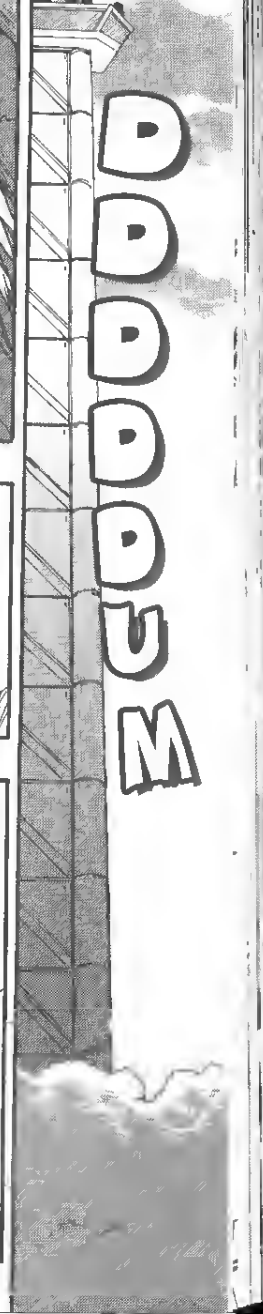

OH WOW...

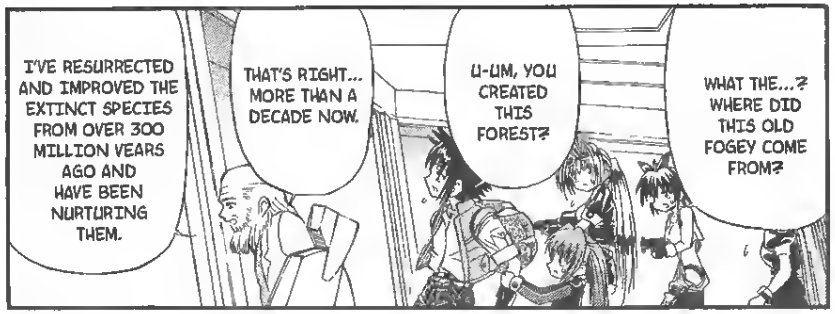
IT'S BIGGER THAN I EXPECTED.
WHOA...

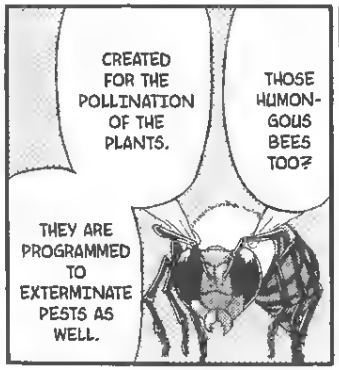
WE'LL SEE... WHAT DEVIL WE MIGHT RUN INTO...
HONESTLY, I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF A GIANT LIVED HERE.

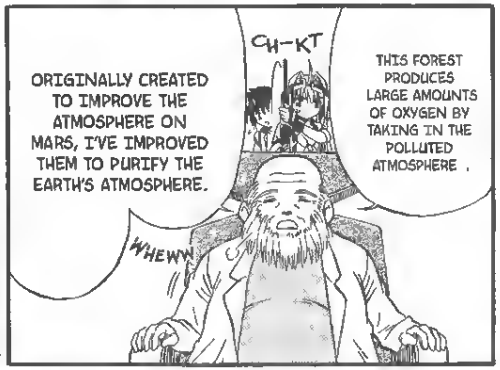
NO ESCAPING!
WHEEE
A DIRECT WAY TO THE TOP FLOOR...


OH TOO BAD... THE ELEVATOR'S REGULAR HUMAN SIZE.


DDDDDUM

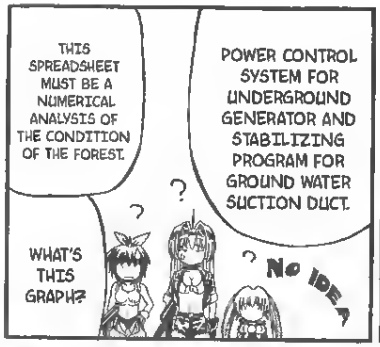

I'VE RESURRECTED AND IMPROVED THE EXTINCT SPECIES FROM OVER 300 MILLION YEARS AGO AND HAVE BEEN NURTURING THEM.
THAT'S RIGHT... MORE THAN A DECADE NOW.
U-UM, YOU CREATED THIS FOREST?
WHAT THE...? WHERE DID THIS OLD FOGEY COME FROM?


CREATED FOR THE POLLINATION OF THE PLANTS.
THOSE HUMONGOUS BEES TOO?
THEY ARE PROGRAMMED TO EXTERMINATE PESTS AS WELL.

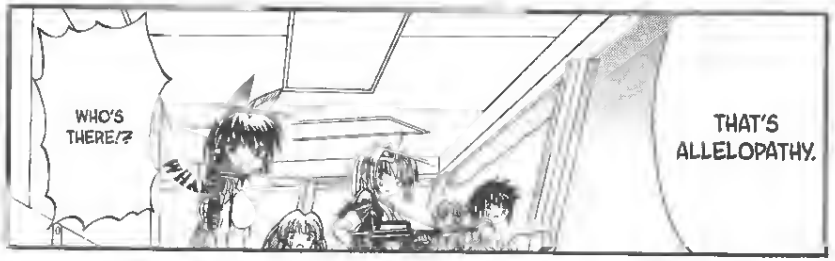

ORIGINALLY CREATED TO IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE ON MARS, I'VE IMPROVED THEM TO PURIFY THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE.
CH-KT
WHEWW
THIS FOREST PRODUCES LARGE AMOUNTS OF OXYGEN BY TAKING IN THE POLLUTED ATMOSPHERE .

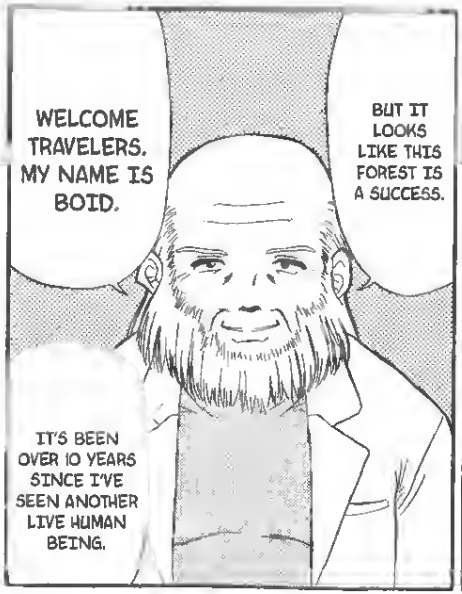
WE BARELY MANAGED TO ESCAPE INTO THIS FOREST...
ONE WAS CHASING US LAST NIGHT...
AH...
TAKA TAKA

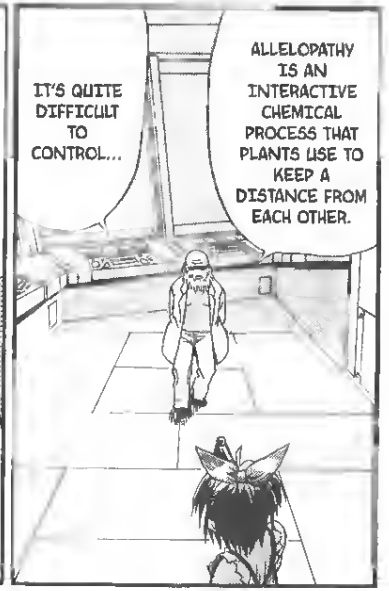
ENOUGH ABOUT THAT. WHAT ABOUT THOSE MONSTERS? ARE YOU CONTROLLING THEM TOO?
WE WERE THE PESTS ...
YOU MEAN THE "SNAILS"?


THIS SPREADSHEET MUST BE A NUMERICAL ANALYSIS OF THE CONDITION OF THE FOREST.
POWER CONTROL SYSTEM FOR UNDERGROUND GENERATOR AND STABILIZING PROGRAM FOR GROUND WATER SUCTION DUCT.
WHAT'S THIS GRAPH?
NO IDEA

MAYBE THEY'RE USED TO MANAGE THE FOREST.
WHAT ARE ALL THESE INSTRUMENTS FOR?

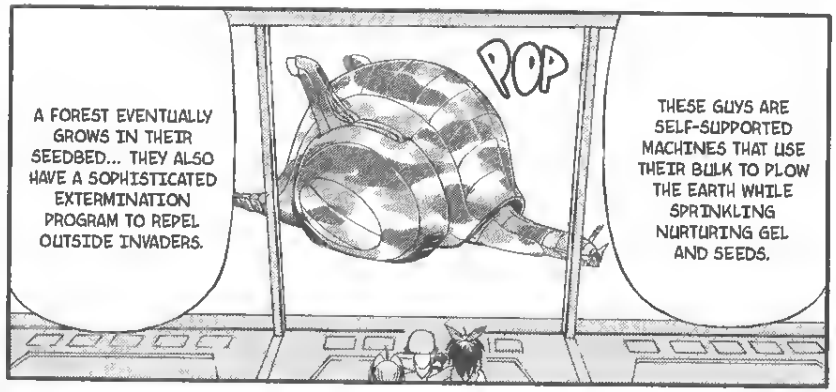

WHO'S THERE!?
THAT'S ALLELOPATHY.


WELCOME TRAVELERS. MY NAME IS BOID.
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THIS FOREST IS A SUCCESS.
IT'S BEEN OVER 10 YEARS SINCE I'VE SEEN ANOTHER LIVE HUMAN BEING.


IT'S QUITE DIFFICULT TO CONTROL...
ALLELOPATHY IS AN INTERACTIVE CHEMICAL PROCESS THAT PLANTS USE TO KEEP A DISTANCE FROM EACH OTHER.

SO... WE CAN'T STAY HERE FOR LONG...
WE ARE TRYING TO GET TO THE Z.P.T. MAINFRAME.
OH...
BUT WHAT'S A KID LIKE YOU GOING TO DO AT A PLACE LIKE THAT?
WELL, YES...
SO YOU KNOW ABOUT Z.P.T.?
Z.P.T. EH... LONG TIME SINCE I'VE HEARD THAT NAME.

I KNOW THERE ARE OTHER CITIES THAT ARE BEING WIPED OUT EVEN AS WE SPEAK.
OUR TOWNS WERE ALL WIPED OUT BY Z.P.T.
AND WE WANT TO PUT AN END TO THAT.


A FOREST EVENTUALLY GROWS IN THEIR SEEDBED... THEY ALSO HAVE A SOPHISTICATED EXTERMINATION PROGRAM TO REPEL OUTSIDE INVADERS.
POP
THESE GUYS ARE SELF-SUPPORTED MACHINES THAT USE THEIR BULK TO PLOW THE EARTH WHILE SPRINKLING NURTURING GEL AND SEEDS.

NO CAN DO THEY ARE COMPLETELY SELF-SUSTAINED.
THEY ARE PROGRAMMED TO BUILD FORESTS INDEFINITELY
OKAY, SO NOW WE KNOW WHAT THEY ARE... BUT WE WANNA GET OUTTA HERE! CAN YOU STOP THOSE BIG-ASS MOTHERS?

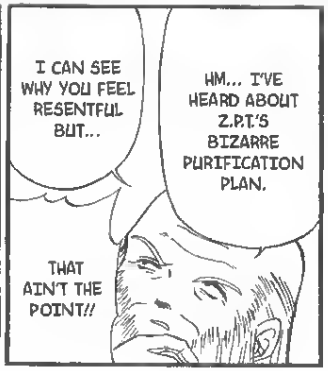
SINCE THEY WILL NOT HARM PLANTS.
OH.
THAT WAS ONE SMART MOVE, TAKING COVER IN THE FOREST.

SORRY, WE HAVE IMPORTANT BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO. IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN DO?
SICK OLD BASTARD!! I SWEAR I'M GONNA TEAR DOWN THIS TOWER!!
BUSINESS?

YOUR EVEN WELCOME TO SETTLE DOWN HERE WITH ME
I SAY GIVE UP AND START LIVING HERE. IT'S NOT AS BAD AS YOU MIGHT THINK.
OH... YOU...

NO. I CAN'T LET THAT GO ON.
PURIFICATION OF EARTH IS NECESSARY, BUT NOT IN EXCHANGE FOR HUMAN LIVES.

SOMEONE HAS TO RIGHT THE WRONG!!
I'M PISSED OFF WITH THE PEOPLE WHO MADE THE WORLD LIKE THIS, BUT WHAT'S DONE'S ALREADY DONE!!
THAT'S ALL!!


I CAN SEE WHY YOU FEEL RESENTFUL BUT...
HM... I'VE HEARD ABOUT Z.P.T.'S BIZARRE PURIFICATION PLAN.
THAT AIN'T THE POINT!!

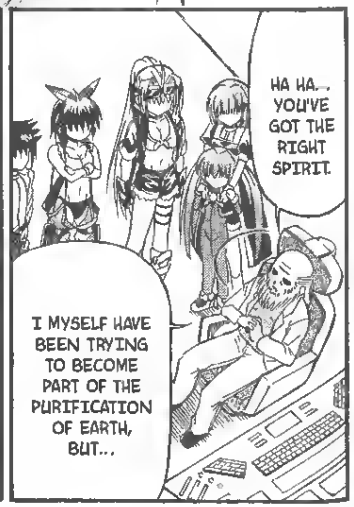
MAMET'S WITH YOU ALL THE WAY!!

THOUGH I AM RISKING MY LIFE, I WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY.
BUT WE'VE GOT TO GIVE IT A TRY.

WE ARE NOT EVEN SURE IF WE CAN GET TO Z.P.T.
THERE'S NO GUARANTEE WE CAN DO IT...

THIS CERTAINLY IS A RARE OCCASION.
YOU GUYS ARE ALWAYS TOO SHY TO BE SINCERE LIKE THAT.
THAT'S RIGHT ...
LOOK WHO'S TALKING, WOOTY...
WHAT WAS THAT, LOUIS? A LINE LIKE THAT IS WAY TOO COOL FOR YOU.
MAYBE THEY'RE STILL INTOXICATED

SO IT'S GREAT TO SEE KIDS LIKE YOU WITH SUCH ENTHUSIASM.
MY BODY PASSED ITS WARRANTY PERIOD LONG AGO...
WARRANTY PERIOD?


HA HA... YOU'VE GOT THE RIGHT SPIRIT.
I MYSELF HAVE BEEN TRYING TO BECOME PART OF THE PURIFICATION OF EARTH, BUT...

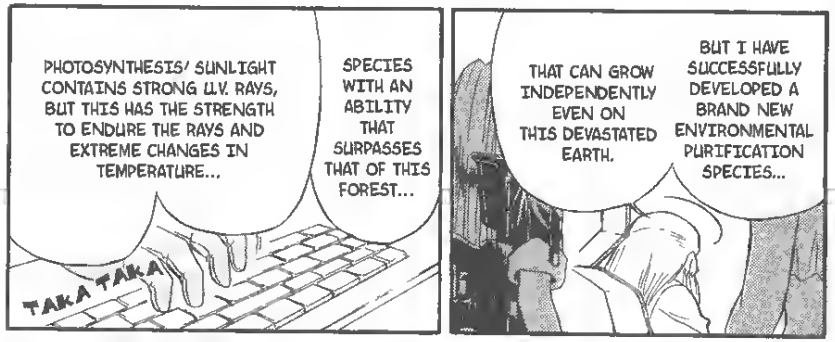
YOU SHOULD FOLLOW THE SAME PATH.
I'VE BEEN DOING WHAT I CAN...
IT'S GONNA TAKE DECADES.. EVEN CENTURIES..
..*SIGH* TALK ABOUT LONG-TERM ...

WHAT A WASTE OF TIME...
SO... WE CAN'T REALLY DO ANYTHING ABOUT THAT "MONSTER".
WELL... I SHOULD ORGANIZE ALL THE USEFUL DATA WHILE I CAN STILL MOVE.

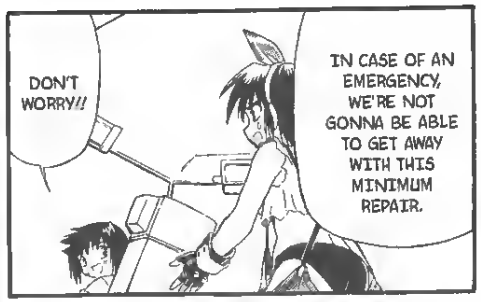
I'M NOT DOING THAT EITHER!!
THEN YOU WANNA START LIVING HERE WITH THAT OLD GUY?
.....
OOOOH, BUT THOSE BEES ARE GOING TO ATTACK US AGAIN!
I GUESS WE HAVE TO COME UP WITH OUR OWN ESCAPE PLAN...

DUNNO ...
YOU THINK WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT WILL EVER COME TRUE?
HNH?
LOUIS ...

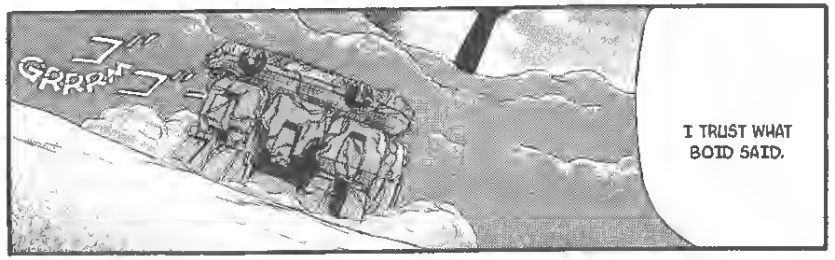
THE TIME'S UP... IT WILL RETURN TO THE EARTH.
WHAT?
THIS FOREST HAS FINISHED ITS JOB TOO.
ALL THAT REMAINED WERE MEMORIES OF A PAST LIFE... I'VE BEEN FOOLING MYSELF...
OH...
MY ORIGINAL BODY WAS BLOWN TO PIECES IN THE WAR...


PHOTOSYNTHESIS/ SUNLIGHT CONTAINS STRONG U.V. RAYS, BUT THIS HAS THE STRENGTH TO ENDURE THE RAYS AND EXTREME CHANGES IN TEMPERATURE...
SPECIES WITH AN ABILITY THAT SURPASSES THAT OF THIS FOREST...
TAKA TAKA
THAT CAN GROW INDEPENDENTLY EVEN ON THIS DEVASTATED EARTH.
BUT I HAVE SUCCESSFULLY DEVELOPED A BRAND NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PURIFICATION SPECIES...

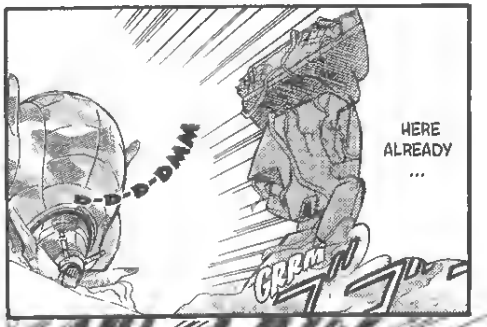
NOW, I JUST NEED TO ENTRUST THIS TO WARMHEARTED PEOPLE WHO WILL GROW AND MULTIPLY IT.
THIS IS IT! I'VE SPENT EVERYTHING I HAD FOR THIS ONE AND ONLY "SEED"!!
DOOOM!


DON'T WORRY!!
IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, WE'RE NOT GONNA BE ABLE TO GET AWAY WITH THIS MINIMUM REPAIR.

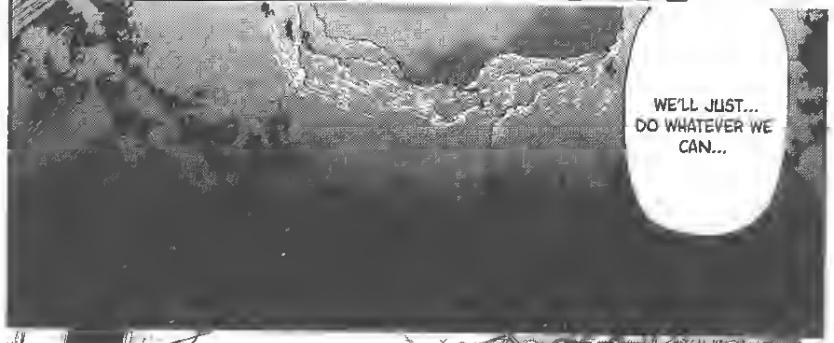
PRETTY SURE.
ARE YOU REALLY SURE ABOUT THIS?


GRRR...
I TRUST WHAT BOID SAID.

LIZA! ARE YOU NUTS?
H-HEY! IT'S A HEAD-ON!
.....

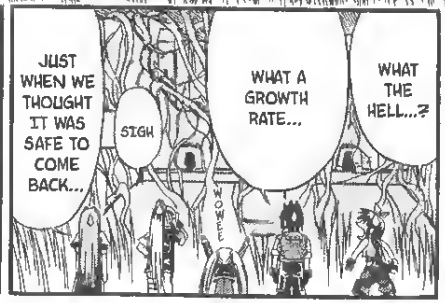

D-D-D-DAM
HERE ALREADY ...

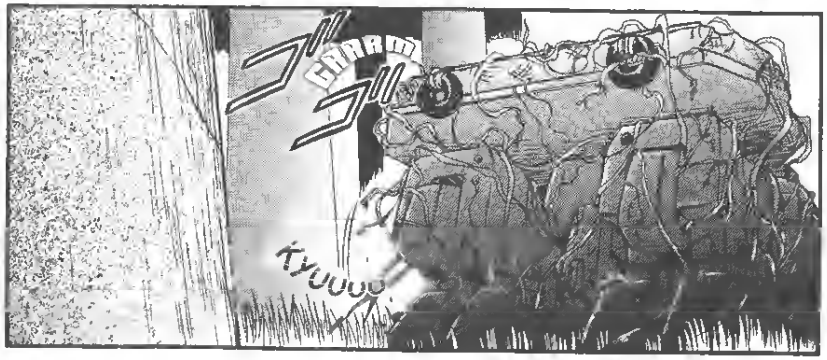
D-D-D-DUM
WE'RE GONNA DIE!!

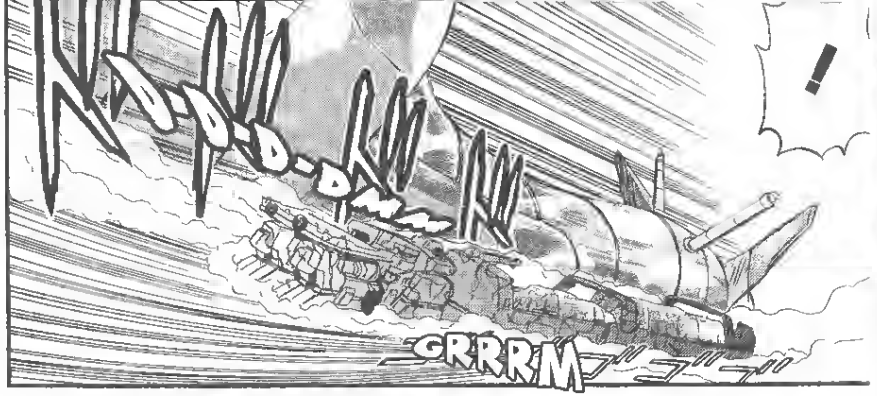

WE'LL JUST... DO WHATEVER WE CAN...

DOH!

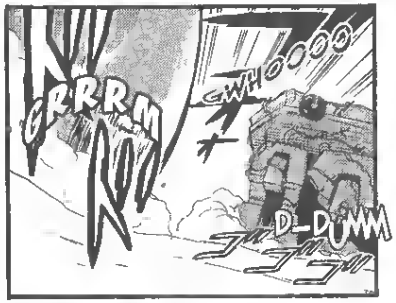
...WAIT A SEC...WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO USE THIS...
OH WELL... WE'LL LET LOUIS REPAIR THE TRAILER WHILE WE TAKE THESE PLANTS OFF...


JUST WHEN WE THOUGHT IT WAS SAFE TO COME BACK...
SIGH
WHAT A GROWTH RATE...
WHAT THE HELL...?
WOWEE


GRRRR
KYUUUU


GRRRM

THAT MACHINE "WILL NOT HARM PLANTS." JUST LIKE THAT FELLOW BOID SAID.
HE WAS RIGHT... IT WENT OUT OF THE WAY...


GRRRM
GWHOOOO
D-DUMM

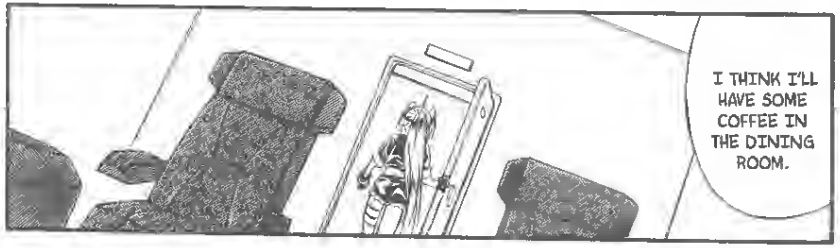
COULD BE...
GRRRM

MAYBE... THE PLANTS COVERING THIS TRAILER WERE HIS GOODWILL TOO.

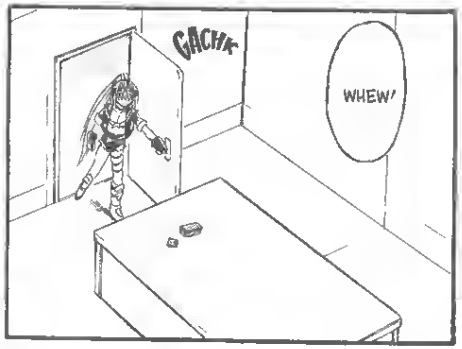
GRRRM

NO WONDER WOOTY FALLS ASLEEP ON HER SHIFT.
HE HAD A BUSY DAY TOO
BEING ON GUARD WITH AUTO-PILOT SURE MAKES YOU SLEEPY...

HMNNN...


I THINK I'LL HAVE SOME COFFEE IN THE DINING ROOM.

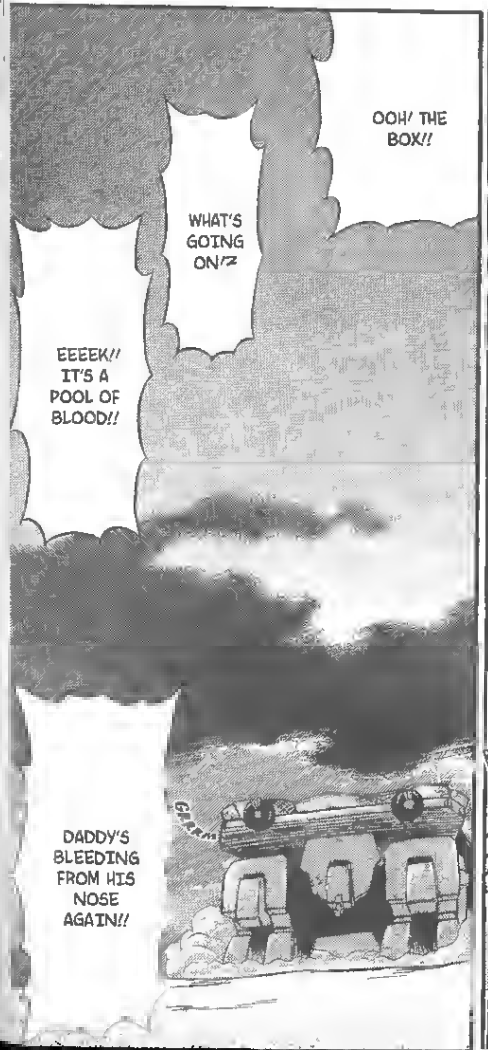
OH?
COFFEE, COFFEE...


GACHA
WHEW!

TO WARMHEARTED PEOPLE!!
THE ONE AND ONLY SEED.
ENTRUST US WITH...
HOW COULD YOU...
SUCH A HUGE TASK...
I CAN'T...
DONK
SUCH A TASK?
.....
JUST DO WHATEVER WE CAN...

I'M GONNA CHECK INSIDE ...
NOW, A STYLISH BOX LIKE THIS COULD BE MILL'S...
WHO'S ARE THESE?
A BOX AND A DISKETTE?
THAT... BOID'S. .
THIS IS...!
WHY IS IT HERE...?
BOID ORDERED IT TO BRING IT HERE...
WAS IT THAT BEE...?
!
THIS...

TWITCH


OOH! THE BOX!!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
EEEEK!! IT'S A POOL OF BLOOD!!
DADDY'S BLEEDING FROM HIS NOSE AGAIN!!
GRRRR

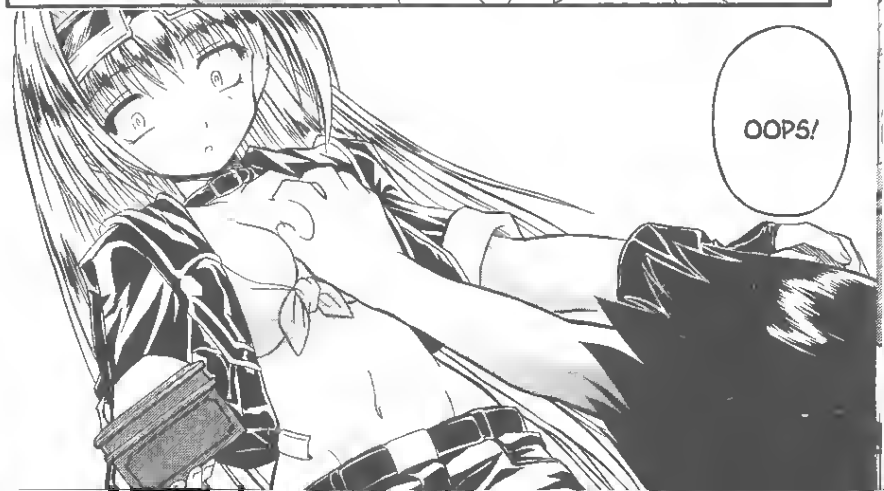
YOU IDIOT!!
BKMM
BWOOSH!!

LOUIS!
LOUIS!

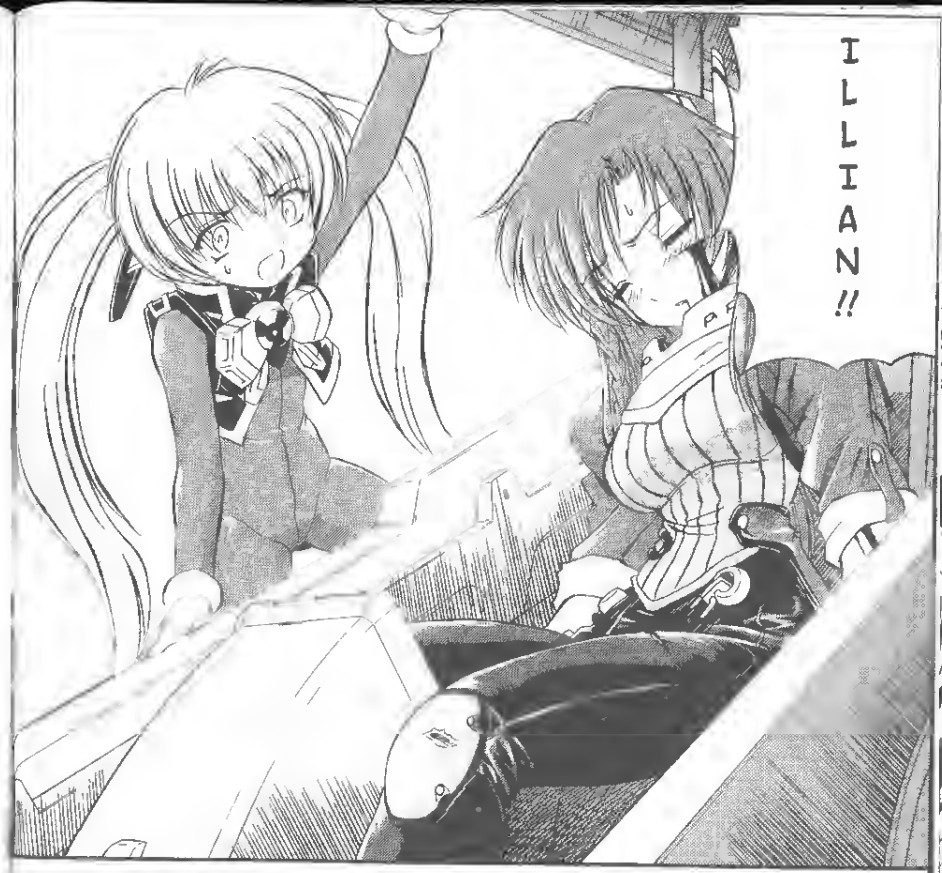
YOU HAVE TO SEE THIS...
LOUIS... PLEASE WAKE UP...
MMMMM

YOU GOTTA SEE THIS!!
RUSTLE RUSTLE
LOUIS! WAKE UP!!

MNYO
LIZAAA? WHAAAT?

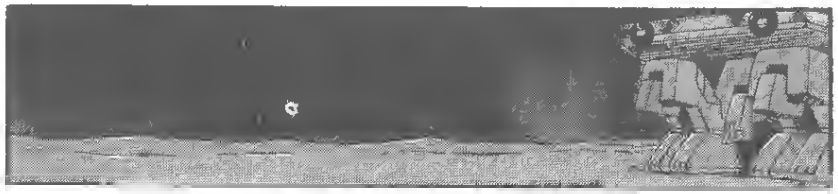

OOPS!

IT'S OBVIOUS THEY HIT EACH OTHER AT POINT-BLANK RANGE!
FRESH REMAINS OF TANKS?
WE'RE SO CLOSE TO Z.P.T....
G-CHNG
MAMET! HOW ABOUT OVER THERE?
BUT WHY AT A PLACE LIKE THIS...?
G-CHNG
I'll
BKKKING
!
ゴゴゴ

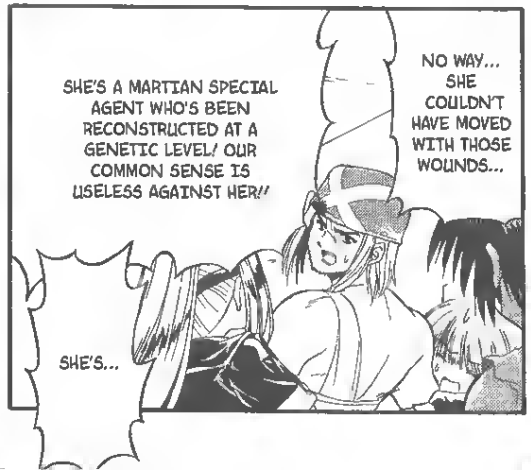


#17 DESTINATION

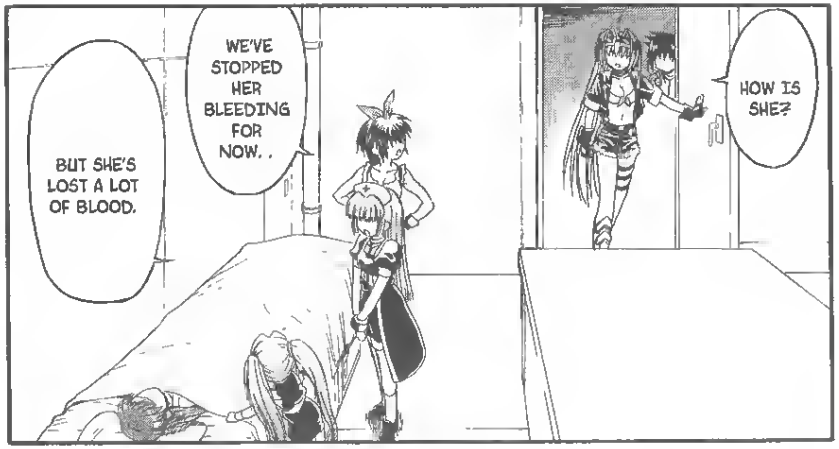
FOR NOW... LET'S JUST WAIT FOR HER TO GET BETTER.

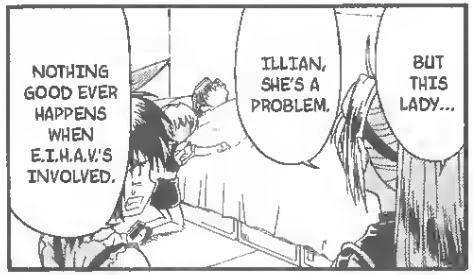


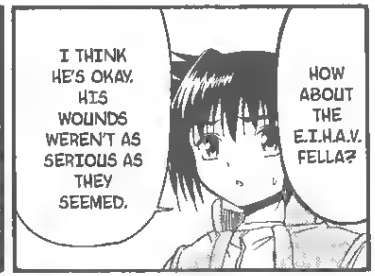
ILLIAN TOOK OFF WITH SCORPION UNNOTICED!
WHAT'S GOING ON?


SHE'S A MARTIAN SPECIAL AGENT WHO'S BEEN RECONSTRUCTED AT A GENETIC LEVEL! OUR COMMON SENSE IS USELESS AGAINST HER!!
NO WAY... SHE COULDN'T HAVE MOVED WITH THOSE WOUNDS...
SHE'S...

LET GO! I'VE GOTTA GO AFTER HER!!
NOT WITH THAT WOUND YOU'RE NOT!


BUT SHE'S LOST A LOT OF BLOOD.
WE'VE STOPPED HER BLEEDING FOR NOW. .
HOW IS SHE?


NOTHING GOOD EVER HAPPENS WHEN E.I.H.A.V.'S INVOLVED.
ILLIAN, SHE'S A PROBLEM.
BUT THIS LADY...

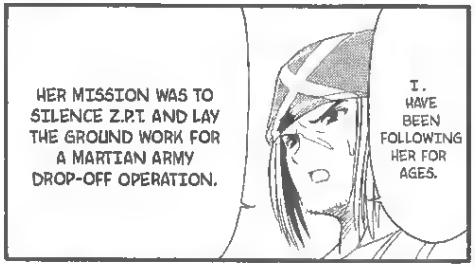

I THINK HE'S OKAY. HIS WOUNDS WEREN'T AS SERIOUS AS THEY SEEMED.
HOW ABOUT THE E.I.H.A.V. FELLA?

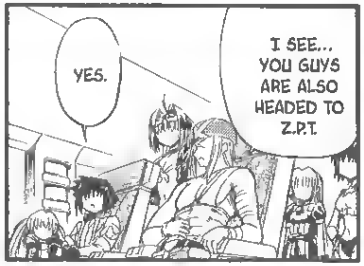
I THINK WE CAN ASSUME THAT SHE CAME TO DO SOMETHING TO Z.P.T.
BUT THEY WERE FIGHTING AT A PLACE LIKE THIS.
YES, ACCORDING TO YOUR STORY...

B-BUT SHE'S REALLY KIND! SHE'S A GOOD PERSON!!
SO SHE'S A MARTAIN AGENT UP AGAINST E.I.H.A.V....

SHE'S TRYING TO STOP THE CENTRAL A.I. SYSTEM OF Z.P.T.!!

I AM BICKS, E.I.H A.V.'S INFORMATION UNIT.
GRRRM


HER MISSION WAS TO SILENCE Z.P.T. AND LAY THE GROUND WORK FOR A MARTIAN ARMY DROP-OFF OPERATION.
I. HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING HER FOR AGES.

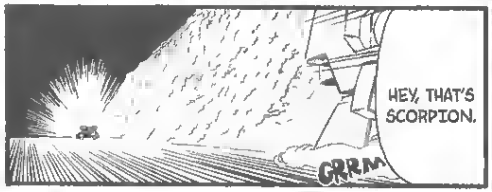

YES.
I SEE... YOU GUYS ARE ALSO HEADED TO Z.P.T.

AND THEIR BIGGEST OBSTACLE HAS TURNED OUT TO BE Z.P.T.
BUT THEY'RE FINALLY BEGINNING A FULL-SCALE INVASION.
THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS OPERATIONS IN THE PAST...

WHAT'S THAT? IT LOOKS LIKE A WALL...
HEY.. ?
.....
I'VE FINALLY CORNERED HER... BUT NOW I'M IN THIS WRETCHED CONDITION.
GRRRM

FOR REAL?
THE DIAMETER'S A FEW MILES...
SURROUND-ING...? IT LOOKS STRAIGHT FROM HERE.

YEAH... LOOKS LIKE THAT "WALL" IS SURROUNDING Z.P.T.
Z.P.T.'S AHEAD OF THAT, RIGHT?

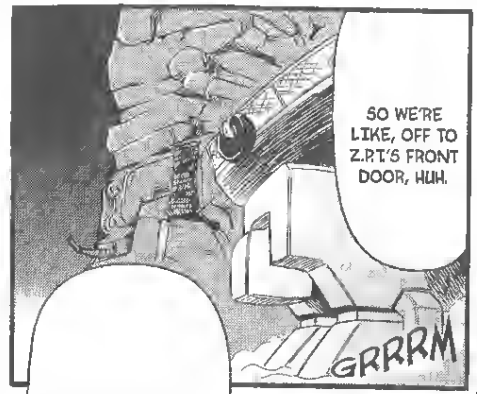

HEY, THAT'S SCORPION.
GRRM

LOOKS LIKE Z.P.T.'S PUT UP SOME HEAVY BARRICADES.
BUT THERE ARE BREAKS HERE AND THERE...
GRRRM

SHE MUST'VE ABANDONED IT HERE AND WENT IN AT THIS BREAK.
SPEAKING OF...

GO
KRAKLLE
LOUIS! STOP THE TRAILER!!
WHA-?
W-WHAT IS THIS!?
AACK!!
G-GOT IT!!
GET AWAY! QUICK!!
GRRM
SCREEE

G-G-G
IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY, IT'S MADE UP OF THE REMAINS OF TANKS AND WEAPONS.
THIS "WALL"...
WHERE DID THEY ALL COME FROM?
G-GGGHW


SO WE'RE LIKE, OFF TO Z.P.T'S FRONT DOOR, HUH.
GRRRM
BUT WHY DID SHE WALK FROM HERE? Z.P.T'S STILL FAR AHEAD, RIGHT?
...CAN'T BE!

WE'LL LOAD SCORPION LATER
RIGHT NOW WE NEED TO CATCH UP WITH HER.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
OH, RIGHT.

Z.P.T. IS JUST AHEAD...

THERE WERE TIMES I HAD GIVEN UP ALL HOPE.
THROWN ABOUT IN A DESERT BY MYSELF...

MY CITY WAS WIPED OUT AND I LOST EVERYTHING.

AND I WAS ABLE TO GET THIS FAR.

BUT THEN I MET YOU GUYS...

ABOUT TO COME TO AN END.
OUR JOURNEY IS...

PANIC
THUMMTHUMMTHUMM
SSSSH

WHA...
ZZZPPT
SSSSSS
WHAT WAS THAT...?

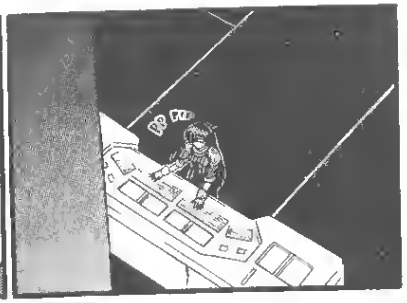
THE WRECKS OF ALL PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO TAKE OUT Z.P.T?
THEN THIS "WALL" IS...
NEITHER TANKS NOR AIRCRAFT CAN BREAK THROUGH.
Z.P.T.'S SELF-DEFENSE SYSTEM.
A STRONG "MAGNETIC LINE OF FORCE"...

LET'S LEAVE THE TRAILER HERE.
WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE.

SO ILLIAN ALREADY KNEW ABOUT THIS.
I'M SORRY... I HAD NO IDEA THAT THE SYSTEM WAS STILL ACTIVE.
YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD US EARLIER... WE ALMOST JOINED THE "WALL"!

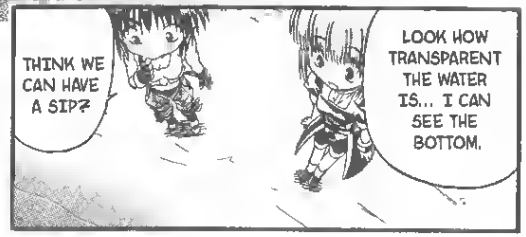
GNN GNN GNN

AND ONE STRONG FIREWALL.
THIS CERTAINLY ISN'T A SIMPLE TASK...

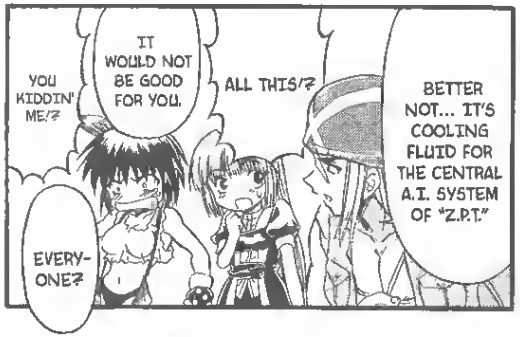


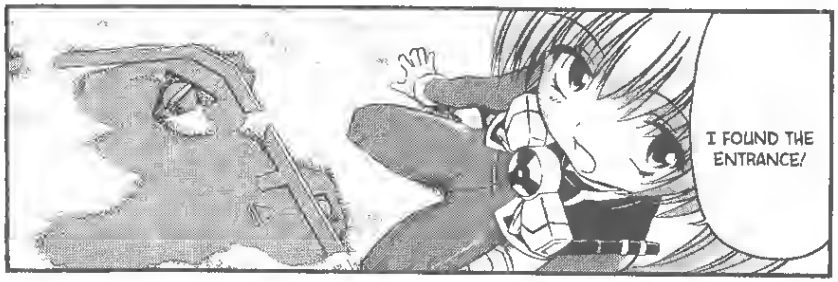
STOP RIGHT THERE, ILLIAN!!
I WOULD NEVER GET THROUGH THIS IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE PROGRAM TERMINATION DATA CHIP...

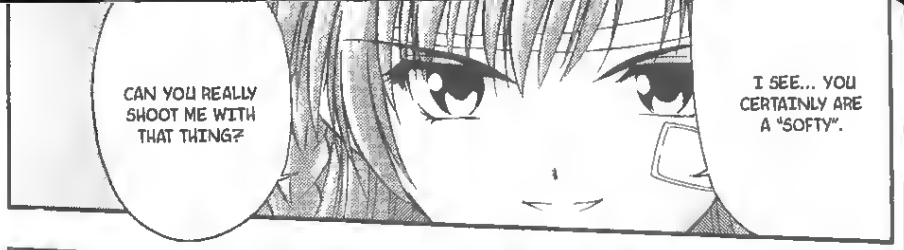
.....

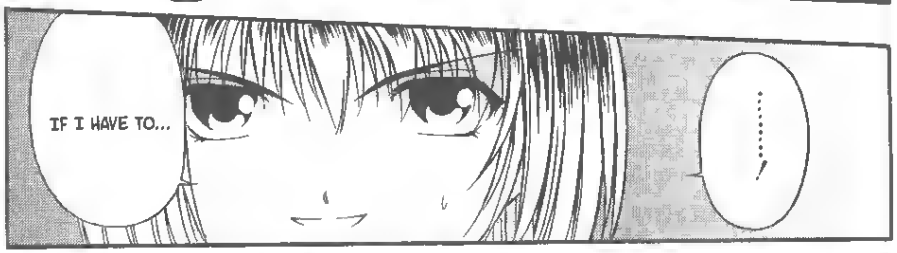

THINK WE CAN HAVE A SIP?
LOOK HOW TRANSPARENT THE WATER IS... I CAN SEE THE BOTTOM.

W-WHY...? IS THIS A LAKE?
WHERE THE HELL IS Z.P.T.?
IT'S SOME-WHERE BENEATH HERE
OF COURSE IT'S HIDDEN ...


YOU KIDDIN' ME!?
IT WOULD NOT BE GOOD FOR YOU.
ALL THIS!?
BETTER NOT... IT'S COOLING FLUID FOR THE CENTRAL A.I. SYSTEM OF "Z.P.T."
EVERY-ONE?


I FOUND THE ENTRANCE!


CAN YOU REALLY SHOOT ME WITH THAT THING?
I SEE... YOU CERTAINLY ARE A "SOFTY".


IF I HAVE TO...
.....!

DON'T MOVE!!
ALL RIGHT... YOU GUYS SEEM REASONABLE ENOUGH...
HUP
TWITCH

MAMET ...
ILLIAN, MOMMY LIZA, PLEASE STOP IT!

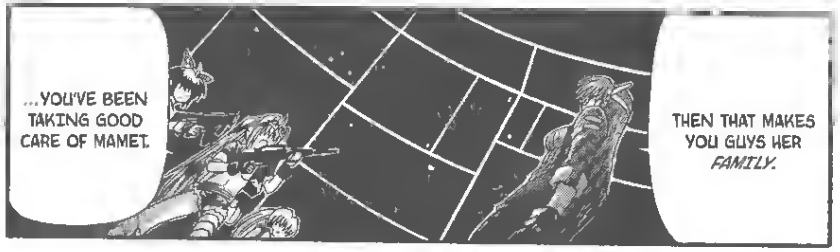
BICKS, I...
MY BROTHER AND COMRADES WERE ALL KILLED BY HER!!
SHE THINKS WE'RE NO BETTER THAN SCUM.
SHUDDUP!!

THAT WOMAN IS MARTIAN ELITE.
HUFF PUFF
DON'T BE FOOLED ...

WE WON'T LET YOU "MARTIANS" TINKER WITH EARTH.
CH-KT
YOU GUYS ARE FROM... THAT TRAILER...

NO, YOU'RE MAMET MY FRIEND!
TYPE M.A.M.E.T. ...

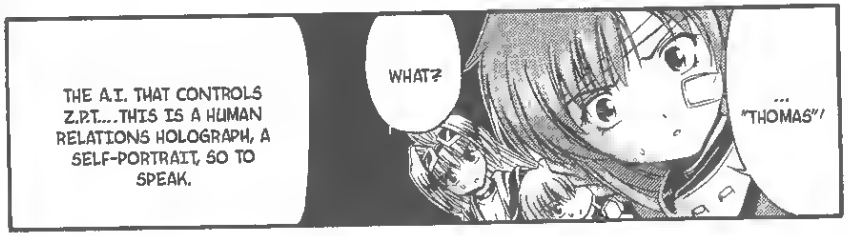
ILLIAN...

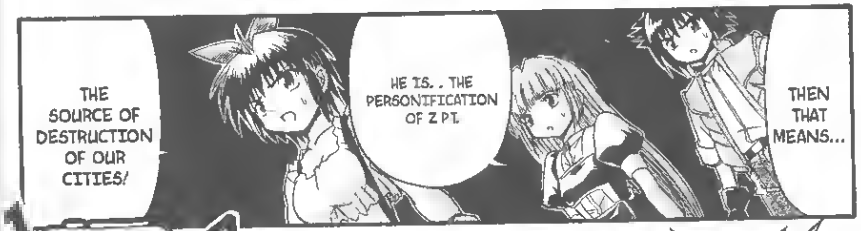

...YOU'VE BEEN TAKING GOOD CARE OF MAMET.
THEN THAT MAKES YOU GUYS HER FAMILY.

I DON'T WANNA HAFTA SHOOT YOU.
ILLIAN... I HEARD THE STORY FROM MAMET.

YEAH... I WAS ALREADY SAVED TWICE BY YOU.
ACTUALLY, YOU GUYS TOOK GOOD CARE OF ME TOO.

A HUNDRED YEARS LATER FROM NOW...
THE INSPECTION OF THE CENTRAL A.I. IS...


THE A.I. THAT CONTROLS Z.P.I....THIS IS A HUMAN RELATIONS HOLOGRAPH, A SELF-PORTRAIT, SO TO SPEAK.
WHAT?
... "THOMAS"!


THE SOURCE OF DESTRUCTION OF OUR CITIES!
HE IS. . THE PERSONIFICATION OF Z.P.I.
THEN THAT MEANS...

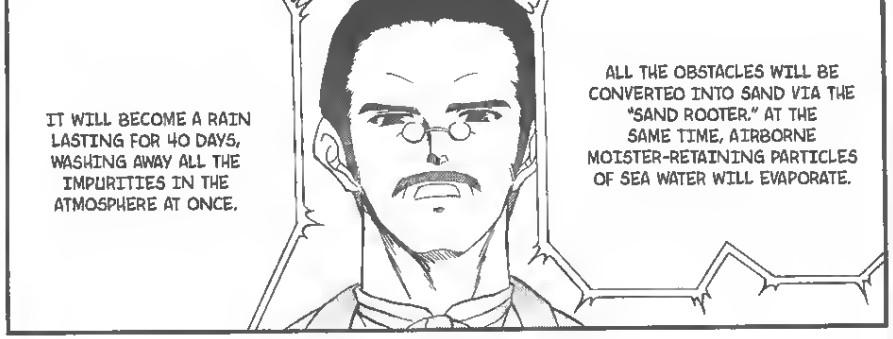
BOOOM!
THE GOAL OF OUR JOURNEY!!

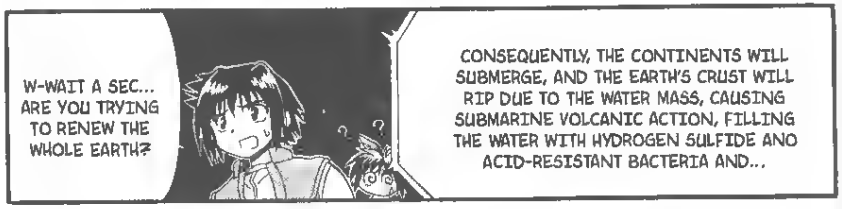
BICKS...

I... YOU...
GNIT

SHOOT THAT WOMAN!!
WHO IS THERE?
THAT DOESN'T MATTER...
WHAT'S BETWEEN YOU TWO?
...? WHAT THE HELL.

!?


IT WILL BECOME A RAIN LASTING FOR 40 DAYS, WASHING AWAY ALL THE IMPURITIES IN THE ATMOSPHERE AT ONCE.
ALL THE OBSTACLES WILL BE CONVERTED INTO SAND VIA THE "SAND ROOTER." AT THE SAME TIME, AIRBORNE MOISTER-RETAINING PARTICLES OF SEA WATER WILL EVAPORATE.

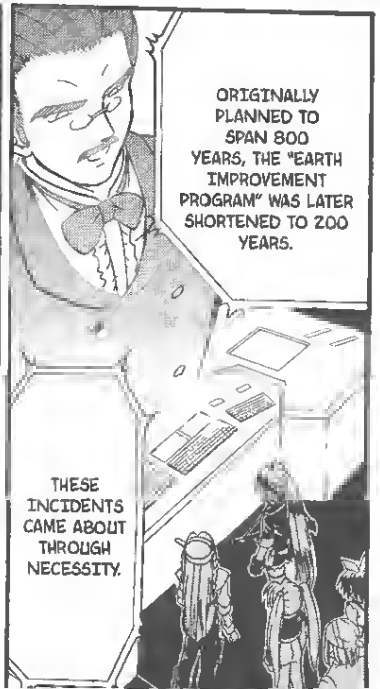

W-WAIT A SEC... ARE YOU TRYING TO RENEW THE WHOLE EARTH?
CONSEQUENTLY, THE CONTINENTS WILL SUBMERGE, AND THE EARTH'S CRUST WILL RIP DUE TO THE WATER MASS, CAUSING SUBMARINE VOLCANIC ACTION, FILLING THE WATER WITH HYDROGEN SULFIDE AND ACID-RESISTANT BACTERIA AND...

WE MUST BE PAYING THE PRICE FOR LEAVING ALL THE DIRTY JOBS TO AN A.I.
SO... IT WASN'T RUNNING WILD AFTER ALL?
THAT IS THE ONLY WAY TO EXECUTE THE PROGRAM.
I TOOK SEVEN DAYS TO SIMULATE THIS AND COME UP WITH THE "DEUCALION PLAN".

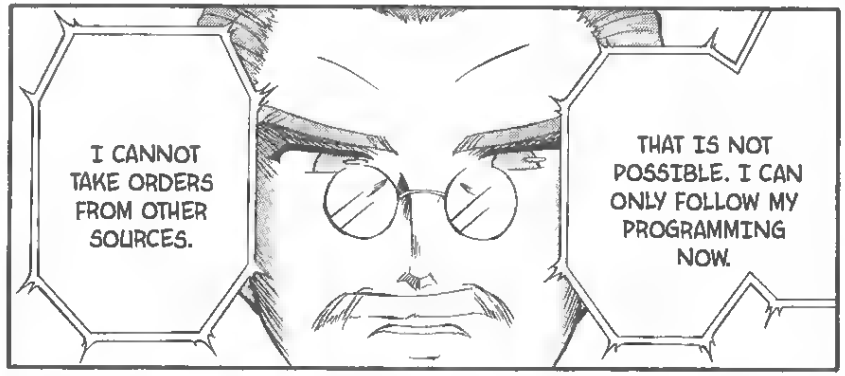
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO RESORT TO SUCH DRASTIC MEASURES WITH THE ORIGINAL PLAN, RIGHT?
OKAY... CHANGE IT BACK TO THE 800 YEAR-PLAN THEN!
BESIDES, THAT WOULD CREATE AN ADVERSE ENVIRONMENT FOR MARTIANS.
.....
HUMANS ARE THE ORIGINAL POLLUTER OF EARTH... MAYBE IT'S OKAY TO WIPE THEM OUT IF THAT WILL REGENERATE EARTH.

ALL THE INNOCENT PEOPLE... THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF THEM..
WHY! WHY DO YOU HAVE TO WIPE OUT CITIES OCCUPIED BY HUMANS?!
I ONLY OBEYED THE PROGRAM.
ANSWER US.
Z PT.. NO, "THOMAS"

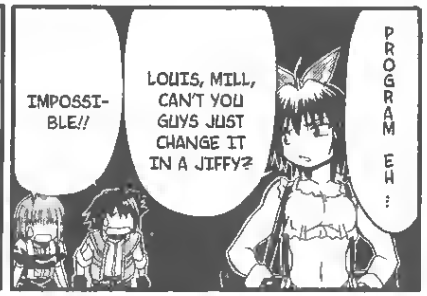
AND THAT CARBON DIOXIDE IS PRODUCED BY HUMAN BEINGS.
CITIES THAT DISCHARGE LARGE AMOUNTS OF CARBON DIOXIDE ARE A HINDRANCE TO THE 200 YEAR PLAN.


ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO SPAN 800 YEARS, THE "EARTH IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM" WAS LATER SHORTENED TO 200 YEARS.
THESE INCIDENTS CAME ABOUT THROUGH NECESSITY.

NO...
TO ME, HUMANS ARE ALSO AN OBSTRUCTION TO THE EARTH.


I CANNOT TAKE ORDERS FROM OTHER SOURCES.
THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE. I CAN ONLY FOLLOW MY PROGRAMMING NOW.

IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT EARTHLING AMATEURS SHOULD MEDDLE WITH.
Z.P.T.'S PROGRAM IS VAST AND COMPLEX.


IMPOSSI-BLE!!
LOUIS, MILL, CAN'T YOU GUYS JUST CHANGE IT IN A JIFFY?
PROGRAM EH :

.....
THEY'RE TOYING WITH EARTH AT THEIR CONVENIENCE.
MM... LOOK...

THAT FIGURES. THE ORIGINAL CREATORS OF Z.P.T. AND THOSE WHO CHANGED IT TO A CRAZY SETTING ARE...
...ALL FROM THE "MARS PIONEER FACTION."
BUT YOU HAVE SOME MEANS TO STOP Z.P.T.
OH-KT

BAM

THESE ARE...

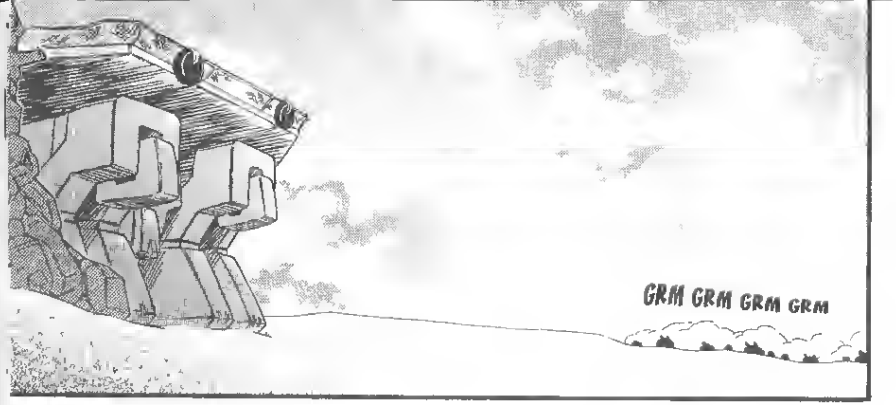
MARTIAN DROP-FLEETS...?

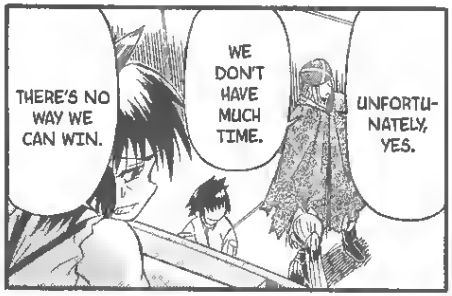
SO THEY'RE HERE...

GRM
GRM
GRM
GRM
TH...

...THE MARTIAN ARMY SEEMS TO BE TARGETING THIS POINT.
IT'S ALL RIGHT... SHE'S JUST UNCON-SCIOUS.
ILLIAN!
NO ONE SHALL INTERFERE WITH ME.
I HAVE SELF-DEFENSE MEASURES.
NO...
SO THE MARTIAN ARMY IS FINALLY LAUNCHING A FULL-SCALE ATTACK.
I ONLY ELIMINATE EVERYTHING THAT STANDS IN THE WAY.
PHOOSH
I EXIST TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAM.
.....
YOU MIGHT HAVE PREVENTED ATTACKS WITH THE "MAGNETIC LINE OF FORCE" BEFORE...
BUT THE MARTIAN ARMY IS ALREADY TAKING THAT INTO CONSIDERATION. YOU'RE NOT INVINCIBLE.

NO...
WHAP
UGKH/
KBOOK
UFFT...
UGH...
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S REACHED HER LIMIT...
UNGH ...
GHK?
UGHK
I'VE... GOT TO...
BEFORE THEY... GET HERE...
ILLIAN/


GRM GRM GRM GRM


THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN WIN.
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
UNFORTU-NATELY, YES.

YO YO... DON'T TELL ME THAT'S ALL OF THEM.
E.I.H.A.V.'S REINFORC-EMENTS ...

TAKE CARE OF ILLIAN.
I'M GONNA JOIN THEM NOW.
.....

NEITHER I NOR E.I.H.A.V. WILL GIVE UP.
DON'T LOSE HOPE YET.

THERE ARE STILL THINGS WE CAN DO.

.....
WE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE FOR NOTHING...?

I WON'T LET NO MARTIANS TAKE OVER EARTH.
I WILL ASSEMBLE E.I.H.A.V. AND PROTECT Z.P.T.

.....
LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE TRAILER.

THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE GOSSIPY!
YEAH!
SOME-THING'S FISHY ABOUT THE TWO.

HURRY HURRY!
STOP PUSHING!

I WANNA DO EVERYTHING I CAN NOW.
SO YOU GUYS ARE FOR REAL TOO.
WE COULDN'T DO A THING WHEN OUR TOWNS WERE WIPED OUT RIGHT IN FRONT OF OUR EYES.
I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN AGAIN.

I'M JEALOUS TO SEE YOU GUYS GETTING ALONG LIKE THIS NATURALLY.
REALLY, EARTHLINGS ARE A BUNCH OF SOFTIES.

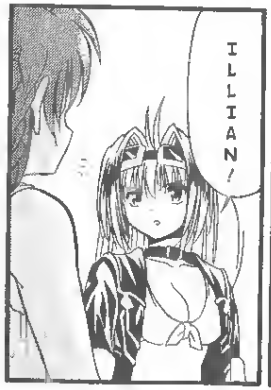
EVEN IF THERE ARE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF THESE TANKS...
THAT'S NOT GONNA WORK WITH THE TROOPS YOU'RE GONNA FIGHT AGAINST.

ILLIAN...
BUT...

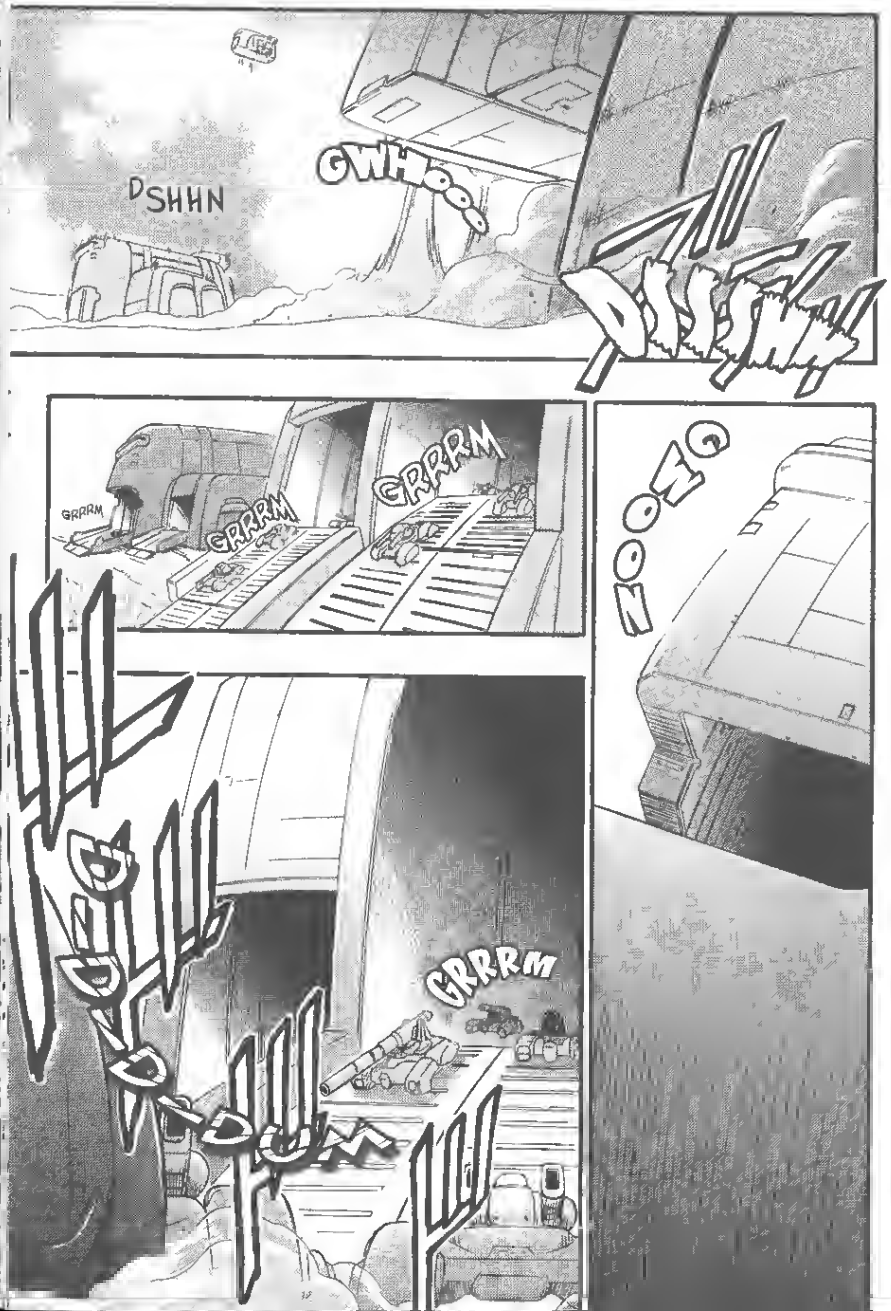
BUT WE CAN'T RUN AWAY NOW.
ARE YOU FOR REAL?

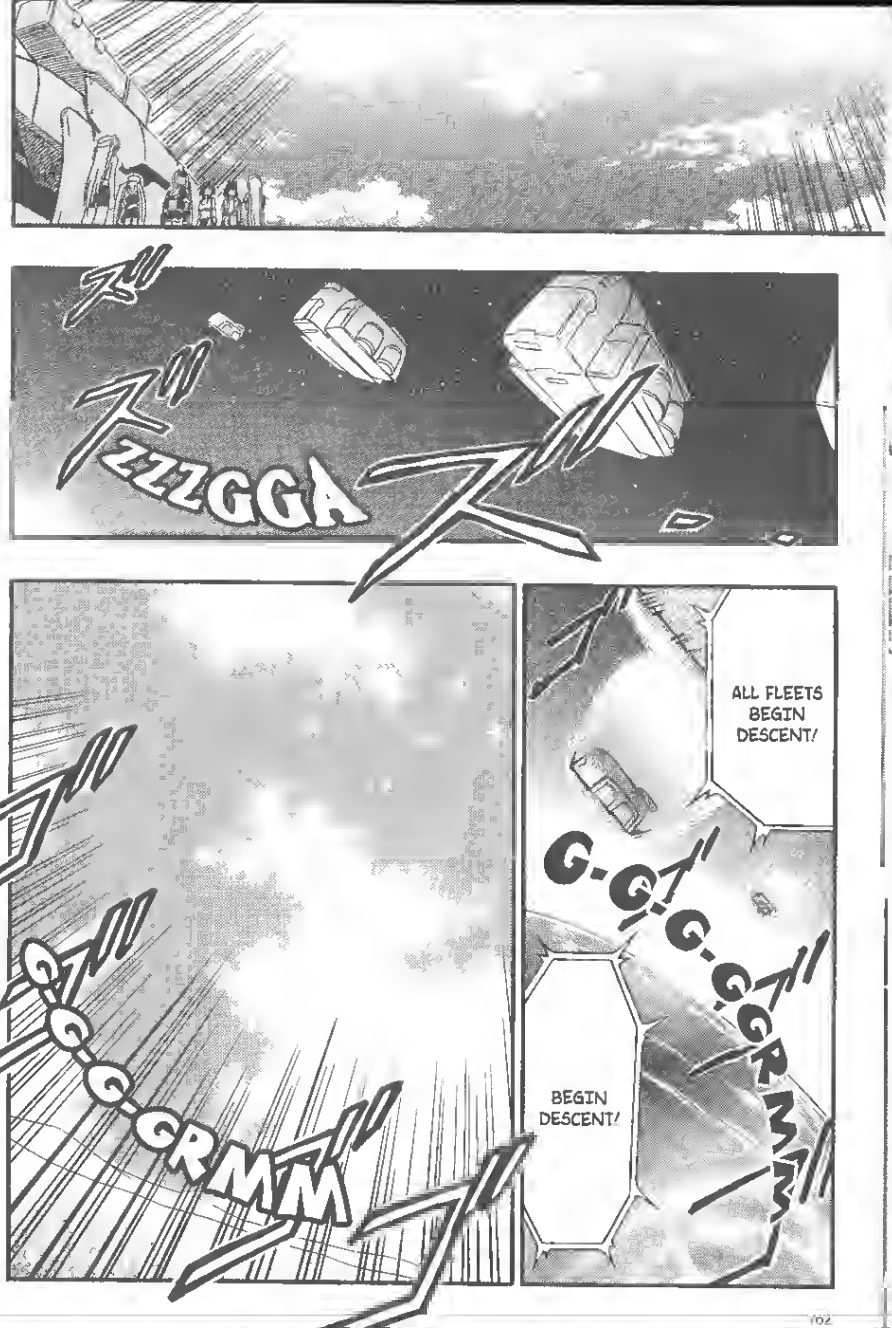
DIDN'T THINK WE'D GET DRAGGED INTO A REAL WAR...
WHAT DID WE GET OURSELVES INTO...

YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN HANDLE AN ARMY OF THAT SIZE?
YOU GUYS AREN'T EVEN SOLDIERS...
ILLIAN...


ILLIAN!

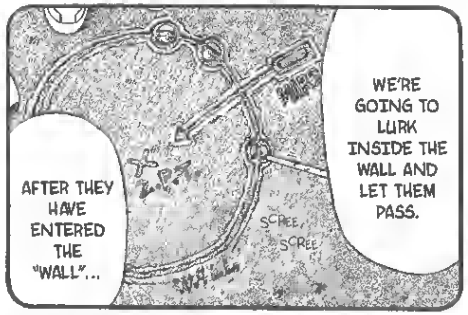
I'M ONLY WARNING YOU FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
YOU CAN MOVE ALREADY?

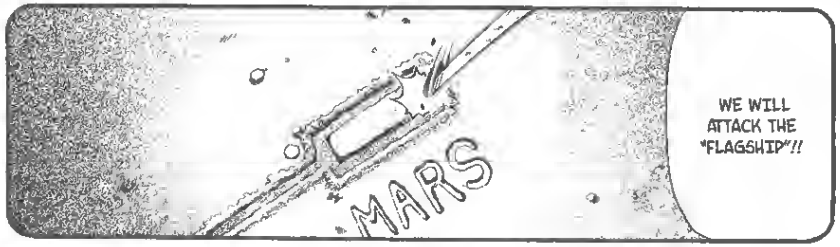

DSHHN
GWHOOO
GRRRM
GRRRM
GRRRM
GIOOIO
GRRRM

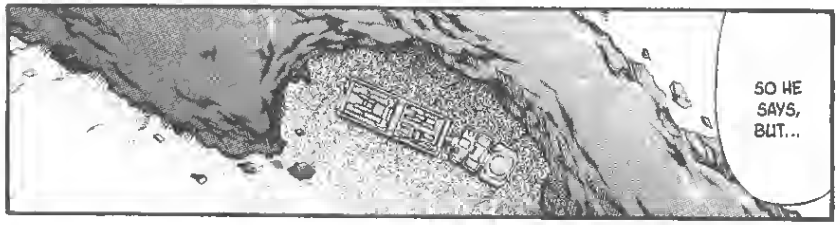

ZZZGGA
G-G-G-G-GRMM
G-G-G-GRMM
ALL FLEETS BEGIN DESCENT!
BEGIN DESCENT!

ROOM!
DUM-DUM
DUM-DUM

HERE THEY COME...
THE MARTIAN ARMY. .

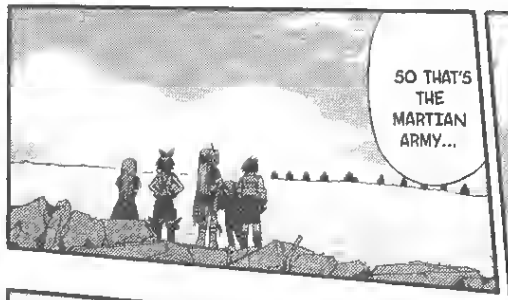




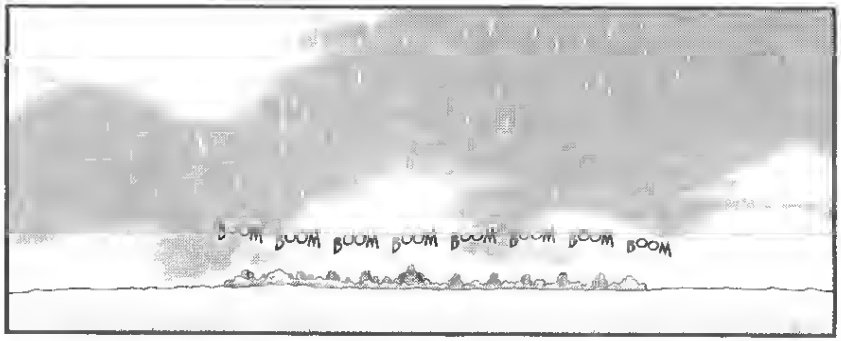


IT SURE IS SCARY...
WE HAVE NO CHOICE.
I'M SURE OUR TANKS WILL CAMOUFLAGE WELL WITH SCRAPS...
WITH AN ARMY THAT BIG, IT'S GONNA BE TOUGH JUST TO LET THEM PASS.

#18 RESTART

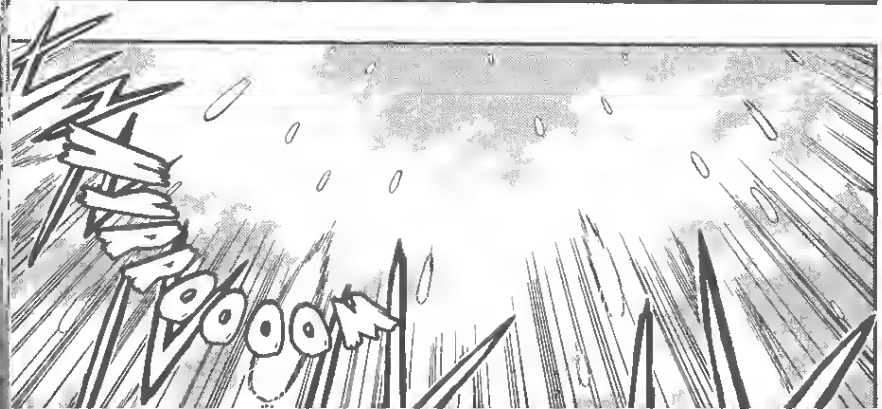


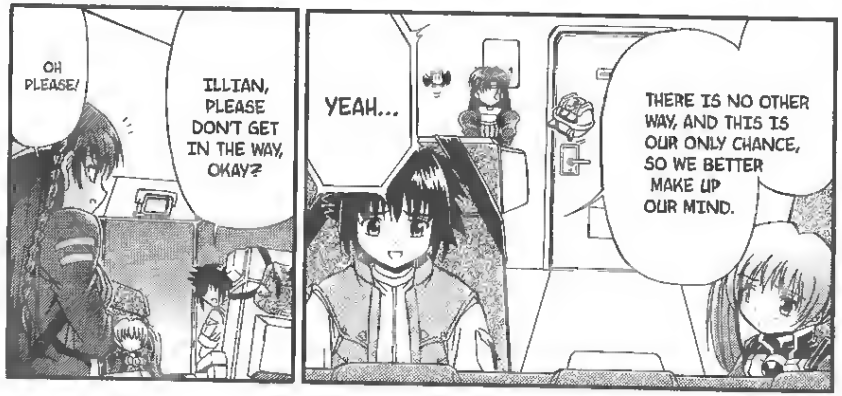
GIGGRMM

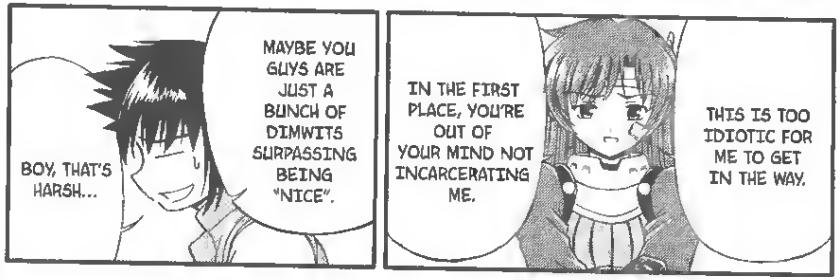

BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM

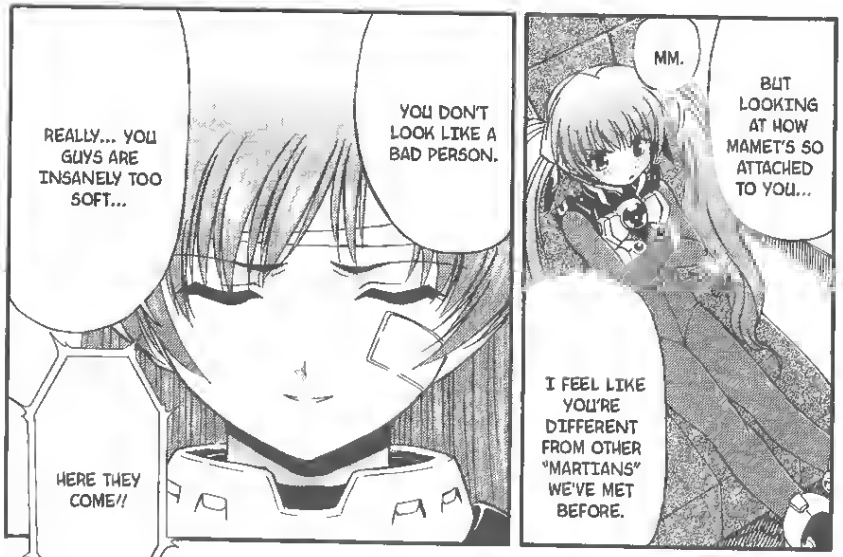
IT'S GONNA HIT US IF WE DON'T MOVE!
DID THEY FIND US?
BOMBARD-ING RIGHT AWAY...
H-HEY...

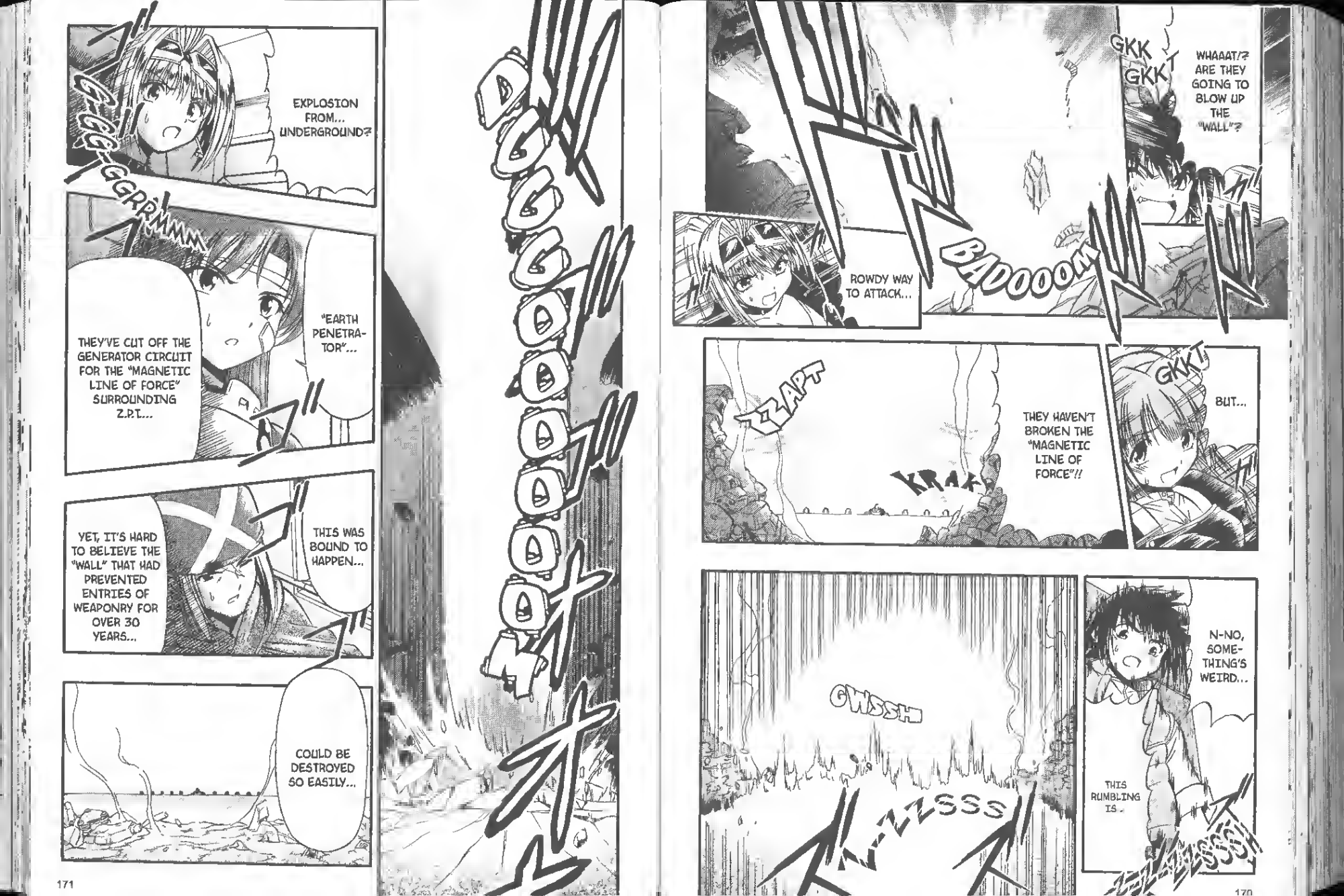
THEY'RE ONLY BOMBARDING THE...
STAY COOL! IT'S MORE DANGEROUS TO MOVE!!

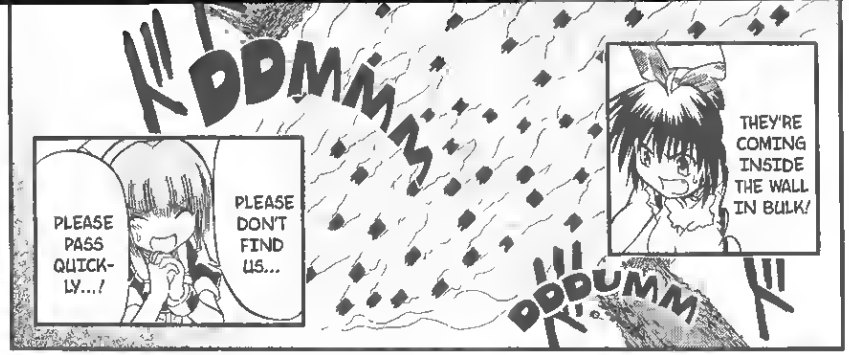

VOOOM


OH PLEASE!
ILLIAN, PLEASE DON'T GET IN THE WAY, OKAY?
YEAH...
THERE IS NO OTHER WAY, AND THIS IS OUR ONLY CHANCE, SO WE BETTER MAKE UP OUR MIND.


BOY, THAT'S HARSH...
MAYBE YOU GUYS ARE JUST A BUNCH OF DIMWITS SURPASSING BEING "NICE".
IN THE FIRST PLACE, YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND NOT INCARCERATING ME.
THIS IS TOO IDIOTIC FOR ME TO GET IN THE WAY.


REALLY... YOU GUYS ARE INSANELY TOO SOFT...
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A BAD PERSON.
HERE THEY COME!!
MM.
BUT LOOKING AT HOW MAMET'S SO ATTACHED TO YOU...
I FEEL LIKE YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM OTHER "MARTIANS" WE'VE MET BEFORE.

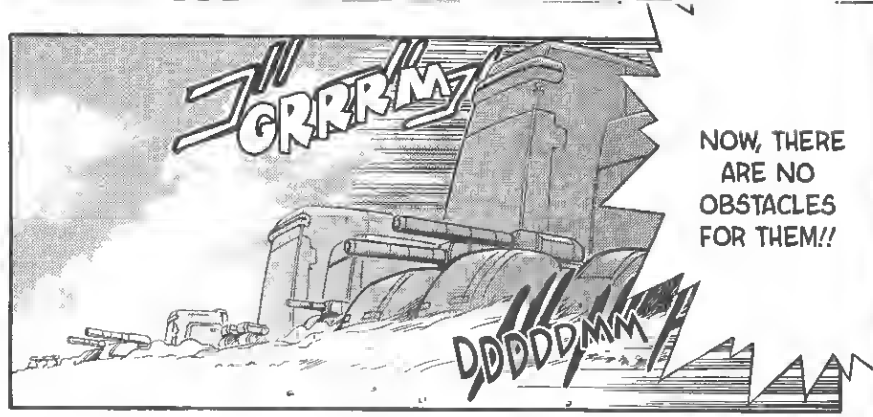

GKK
GKKT
WHAAAT!? ARE THEY GOING TO BLOW UP THE "WALL"?
BADOOOM
ROWDY WAY TO ATTACK...
ZZAPT
KRAK
THEY HAVEN'T BROKEN THE "MAGNETIC LINE OF FORCE"!!
GKKT
BUT...
GWSSSH
N-NO, SOMETHING'S WEIRD...
THIS RUMBLING IS...
EXPLOSION FROM... UNDERGROUND?
GGGG

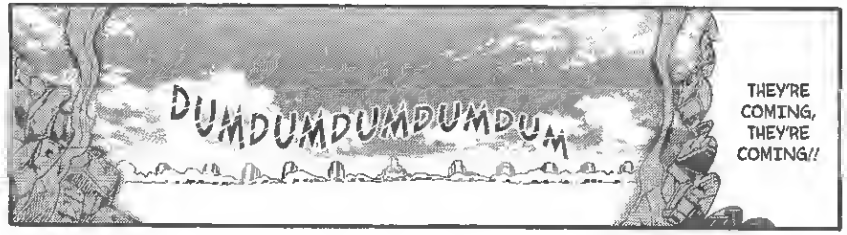

DDMMM
PLEASE PASS QUICK-LY...!
PLEASE DON'T FIND US...
THEY'RE COMING INSIDE THE WALL IN BULK!
DDDUMM

SSSSSH
TWITCH

TWITCH
DDDDUMM

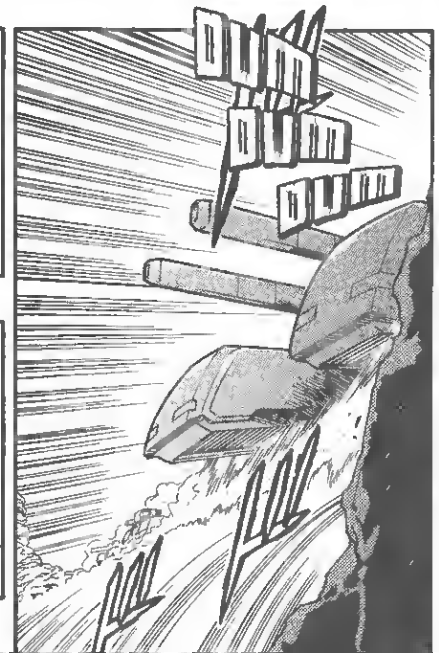
GGGUHHHOH
"SCAVENGERS"!!
Z.P.T. MUST'VE CALLED THEM HERE...


GRRRM
NOW, THERE ARE NO OBSTACLES FOR THEM!!
DDDDDMM


DUMDUMDUMDUMDUM
THEY'RE COMING, THEY'RE COMING!!

THEY'RE FAST! MAYBE THEY'LL DESTROY Z.P.T. EVEN BEFORE WE ATTACK THEM...

BUT WE HAVE TO WAIT!
FOR THE RIGHT CHANCE...


DUM DUM DUM
ALL

BBBDROOM
DGGGDUM
DUM DUMDUM
"MARTIANS" CAN KILL THEIR OWN TROOPS WITHOUT HESITATION!?
THAT'S HORRIBLE... HOW COULD THEY FIRE WHEN THEIR TANKS ARE STILL THERE...?
.....

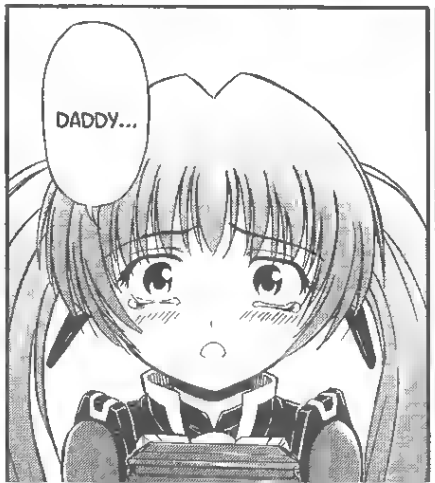
GYAGGAAA
DDDUM
AWWW. LOOK AT THOSE HELPLESS TANKS...
I KNEW "Z.P.T." WOULDN'T GO DOWN THAT EASILY.
THEY'RE NOT THE TYPE OF ARMY TO YIELD WITH THIS MUCH OF A PROBLEM.
SHRRRRRRR
GWHOOO
GKK
GKKT
GKKT

WILL YOU STOP WASTING YOUR LIFE AWAY?
I'M GONNA ASK YOU ONE LAST TIME.

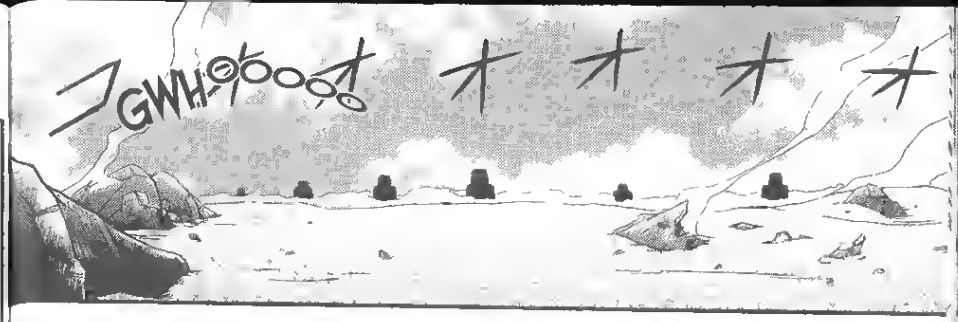
ONE LAST TIME.
DADDY
I'M GONNA GET INTO DREADNOUGHT AND GO SUPPORT LIZA...

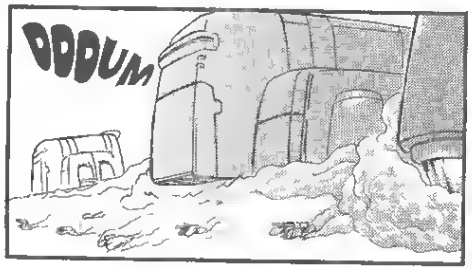
IT MIGHT TAKE DECADES... OR EVEN CEN-TURIES...
TAKE CARE OF THIS SEED. WITH THIS, EARTH WILL COME TO LIFE AGAIN.

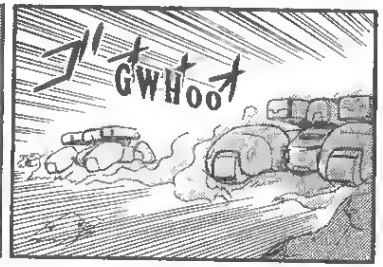
MAMET, DO ME A FAVOR.
HM?
.....


DADDY...

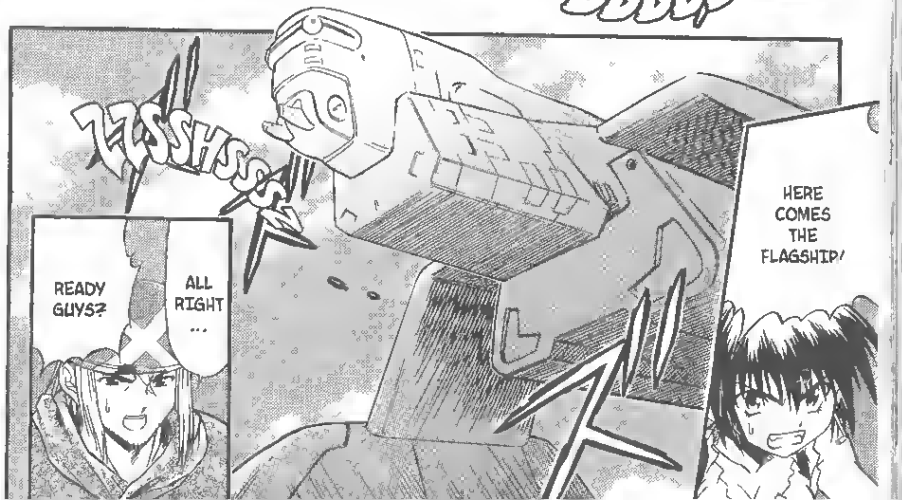
BUT THIS IS A WISH FROM LIZA,
IT'S IN YOUR HANDS NOW.
WOOTY, MILL AND ME.


GWHOOOOOO


DDDUM


GWHOO

ZZSH
DDDDDDUM


ZZSSHSSS
READY GUYS?
ALL RIGHT ...
HERE COMES THE FLAGSHIP!

CREATED IN LIMITED QUANTITIES IN THE LATTER DAYS OF THE "LAST WORLD WAR"...
"XX-41 GEITS" A.K.A. "BIG GEITS" EQUIPPED WITH A SUPER LONG-RANGE CANNON!!
GRM GRM GRM GRM GRM

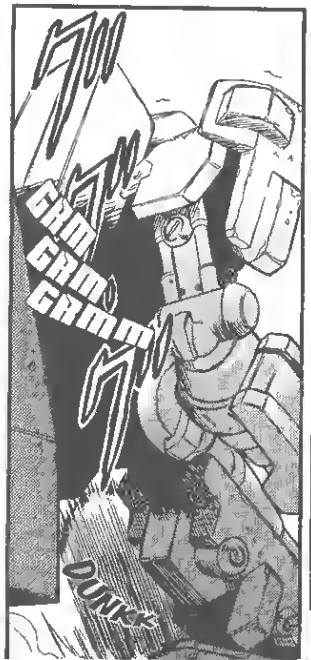
THE SO-CALLED "REINCARNATE OF THE GERMAN PEASANTS WAR HERO, GOTZ OF THE IRON HAND."
...OR "GOETZ" IN GERMAN.
HPP HPP

IF YOU'RE WILLING TO RISK THAT MUCH...
OH, ALL RIGHT.

.....
ILLIAN, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF MAMET.
SNIF

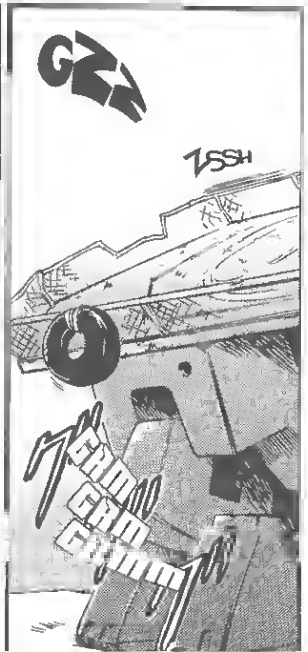
!
TGYYYY!

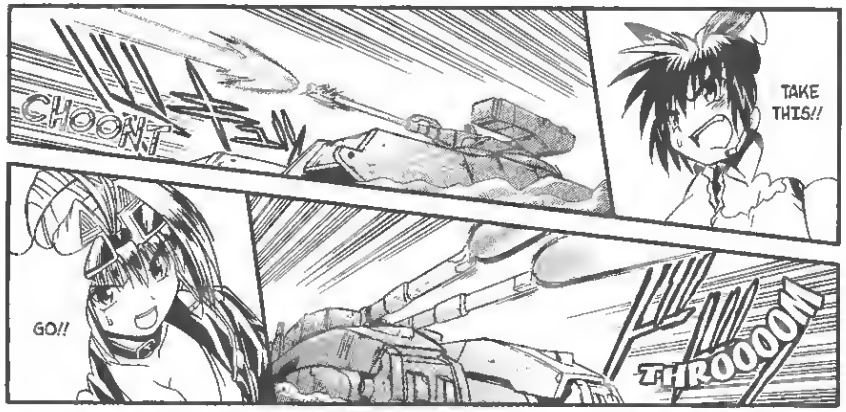
HEY WAIT... DON'T MOVE IT NOW...
?

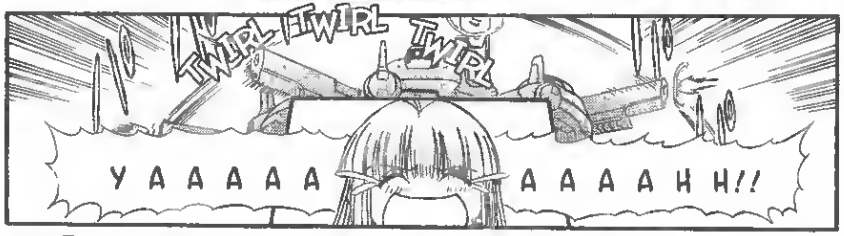

GRM GRM GRM
DUN!

LOUIS! IT'S TOO EARLY...

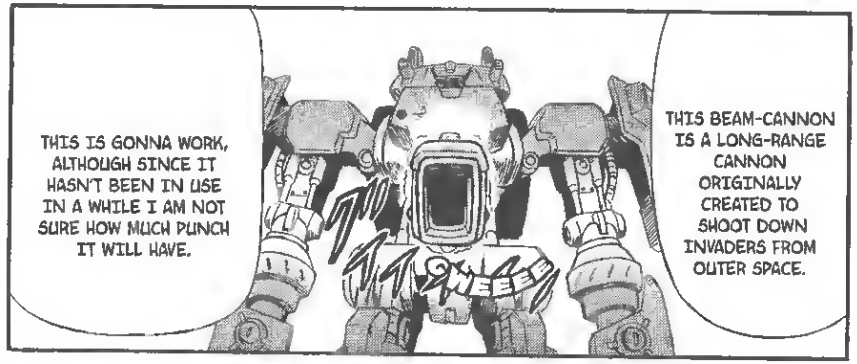
N-NO... THIS IS...


GZZ
TSSH
GRM GRM GRM


CHOONT
TAKE THIS!!
GO!!
THROOOOM

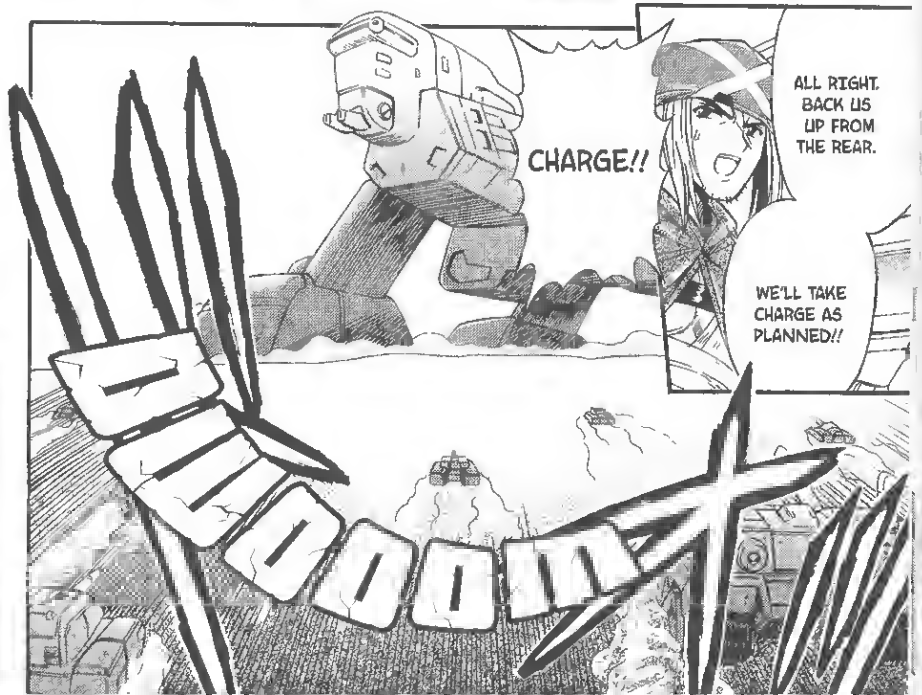

TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL
YAAAAAA AAAAAHH!!

DOM DOM DOM DOM
FIRE!!
P-D-D-DRRRR
GIING
TZING
IT'S COMPLETELY UNDAMAGED!
YOU MONSTER


THIS IS GONNA WORK, ALTHOUGH SINCE IT HASN'T BEEN IN USE IN A WHILE I AM NOT SURE HOW MUCH PUNCH IT WILL HAVE.
WEEEE
THIS BEAM-CANNON IS A LONG-RANGE CANNON ORIGINALLY CREATED TO SHOOT DOWN INVADERS FROM OUTER SPACE.

WHO KNOWS? MAYBE YOU PASSED YOUR "SOFT TOUCH" ON TO ME TOO...

ILLIAN... WHY ARE YOU HELPING US?
CER-TAINLY MORE USEFUL THAN A SCRAP TANK.

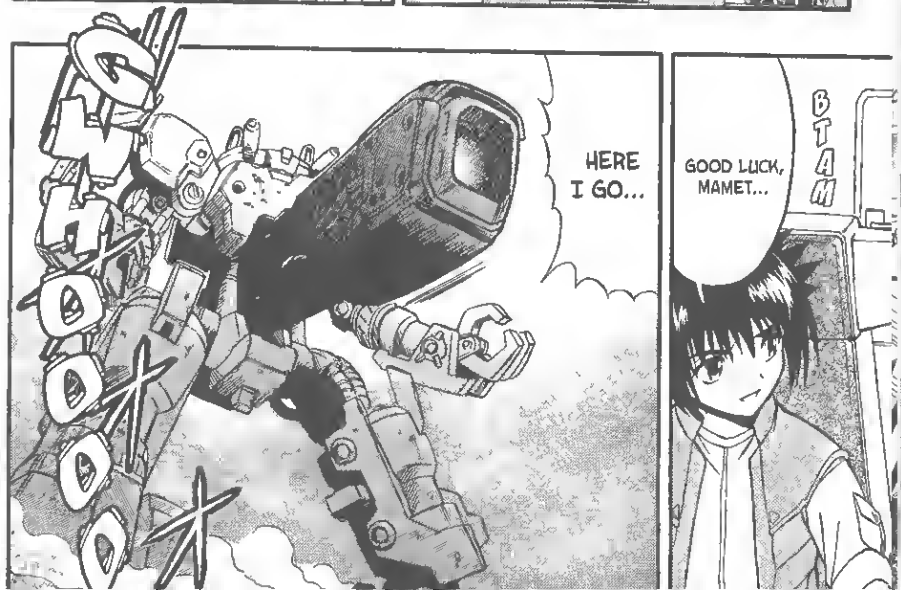

CHARGE!!
ALL RIGHT. BACK US UP FROM THE REAR.
WE'LL TAKE CHARGE AS PLANNED!!
THOOOM

GOOOOO!
KPLAK
PWHOOOSH

ERROR CORRECTION ... STORED IN 3-D TARGET MAP!!
D-DAAANG..
IT'S WORKING!
OUR TRAILER!
NEXT ONE'S GONNA HIT!!
GWISSSS
ZZZZZZ

PYOOM PYOOM
L-LOUIS... READY YET!?
ACKK!!
BBBDROOM

LET'S GO, MAMET.
ALMOST THERE...
OKAY..
G-GOT IT!
GOT IT? YOU GOTTA CORRECT THE ERROR AFTER YOU FIRE! OKAY, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN!
PPPI

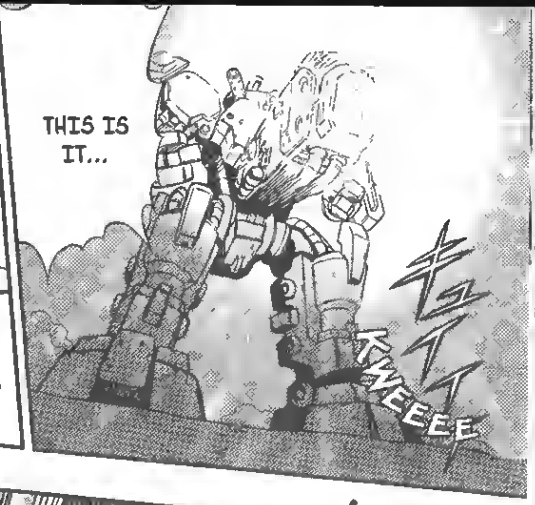

GWHOOOOO
HERE I GO...
GOOD LUCK, MAMET...
BTAM

OH!
WHA ...?
UGH!

A SUN...?

GWOOOSH
Foh

GET'EM, LOUIS!!
YEAH! ATTA BOY!!
H-HEY, WAIT A SEC...


THIS IS IT...
TWEEEE

GGHHTA
GGGRRRM
THAT'S A...
GGKK

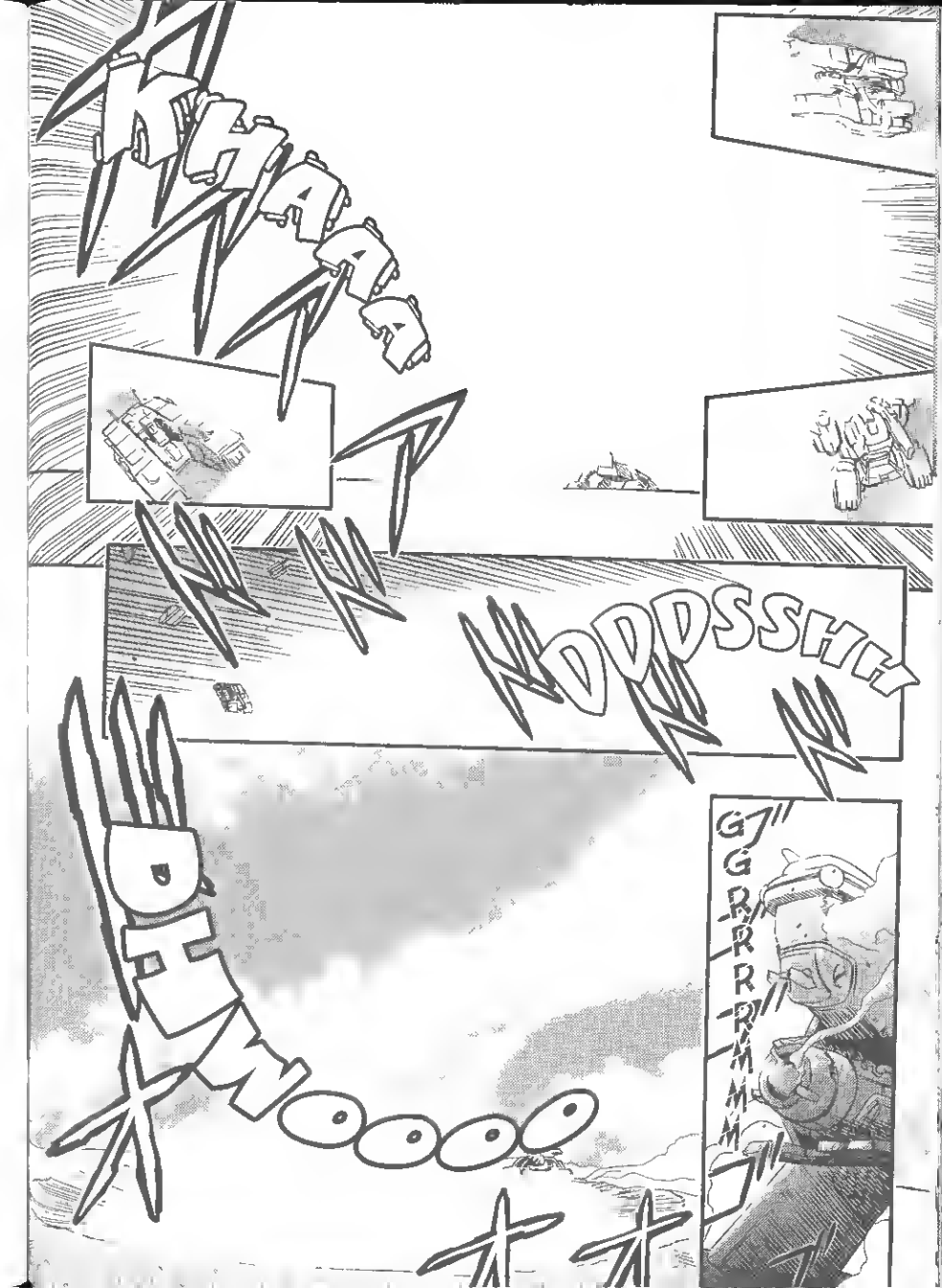
Y-YEAH... I'M HANGIN' ON.
ME TOO...
EVERYONE OKAY?
UGHH

GRRRRMM
UFFT ...

MAMET!!
LOUIS!!
L-LOUIS? MAMET?

GGGRRMMMM
ANSWER ME!!

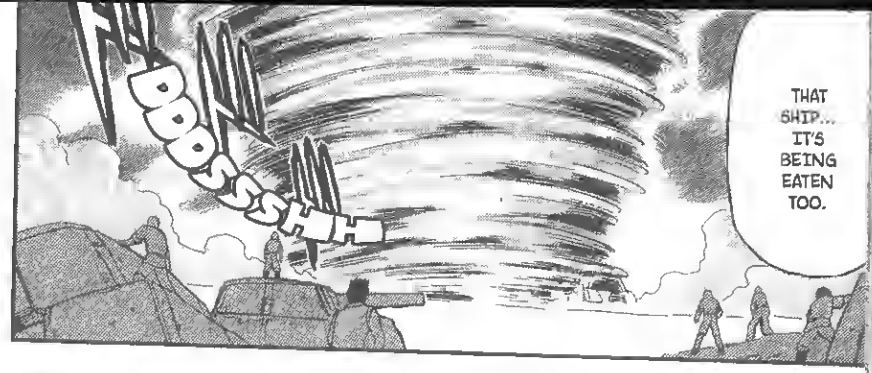
AND ILLIAN TOO...
THE WHOLE TRAILER MUST'VE BEEN...
AN EXPLOSION LIKE THAT..


KHAAA
WHOPPSSHH
DEWOOOO
GGRRRRRMMMM

YEAH... IT SOUNDS LIKE...
G-G-GRRRRM
AND THIS SOUND... I'VE HEARD IT BEFORE.
THIS NOISE...
BZ...
BBZZ
SO THIS IS IT...?
"SAND ROOTER!"
GGGRRRRMMM
DDDSSSHHH
THEY'RE PROBABLY ANNIHI-LATED...
SO IT SUCKED UP THE MARTIAN ARMY AND GOT BIGGER.
Z.P.T.'S LAST RESORT...

YOUR SHITTIN' ME, RIGHT?
N-NO... LOUIS...
MAMET ...
.....
G-GGRRRMM
!
BUT... THEY MUST'VE HAD DAMAGE TOO...
GGRRRRMMMM
HOLY MOTHER .../
THEY CAN STILL MOVE...?
DDDSSSHHH

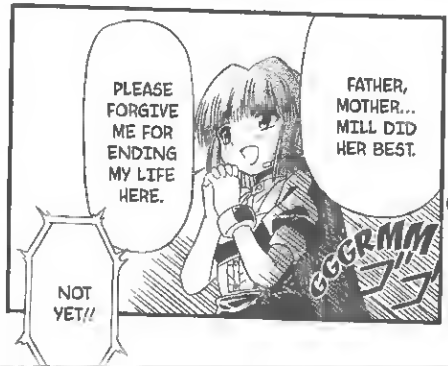
THAT VOICE...
DON'T GIVE UP YET!!
BDDDSSSH
LEFT TO DO!!
THERE'S STILL ONE THING...
LOUIS!!
HANG ON!!

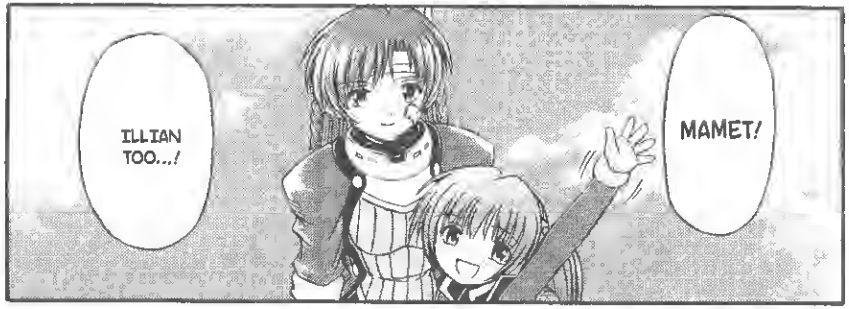

BDDSSSH
THAT SHIP... IT'S BEING EATEN TOO.

GGGRRRMM
SO WE'RE ALL TOGETHER AT THE END.
YEAH.
DUNNO... BUT WE DID ALL WE CAN.
DID WE... WIN THE BATTLE?

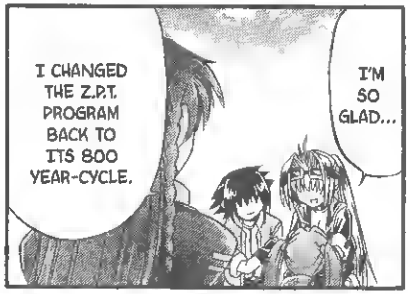
IF WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT BEAUTY HAVING A SHORT LIFE WAS TRUE...
TOO BAD THE SAGA OF THIS PRETTY GIRL HAS TO END HERE, BUT...
GGGRRRM

LOUIS... MAMET... EVERYONE WHO PERISHED...
I CAN FINALLY MEET YOU GUYS.
GGRRMM


PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR ENDING MY LIFE HERE.
FATHER, MOTHER... MILL DID HER BEST.
NOT YET!!
GGGRMM


MAMET!
ILLIAN TOO...!

NOW THE CITIES WON'T BE WIPED OUT ANYMORE.
USING THE DATA CHIP FROM MY ORIGINAL MISSION, I WAS ABLE TO DELETE THE PROGRAM INTERFACE THAT WAS RUNNING IT OUT OF CONTROL
WHAT!?

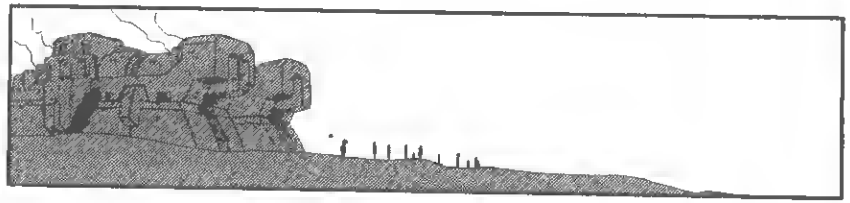

I'M SO GLAD...
I CHANGED THE Z.P.T. PROGRAM BACK TO ITS 800 YEAR-CYCLE.

ILLIAN!
OH, ILLIAN ...

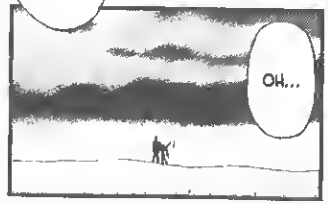
I'M SURE THE MARTIAN ARMY HASN'T GIVEN UP ON INVASION YET...
I'M RETURNING TO E.I.H.A.V.
I'M GOING WITH YOU...

BICKS ...
SQWEEEZ
OH... I KNEW IT ALL ALONG!
BULL'S EYE!

DDDDDDDSSSH

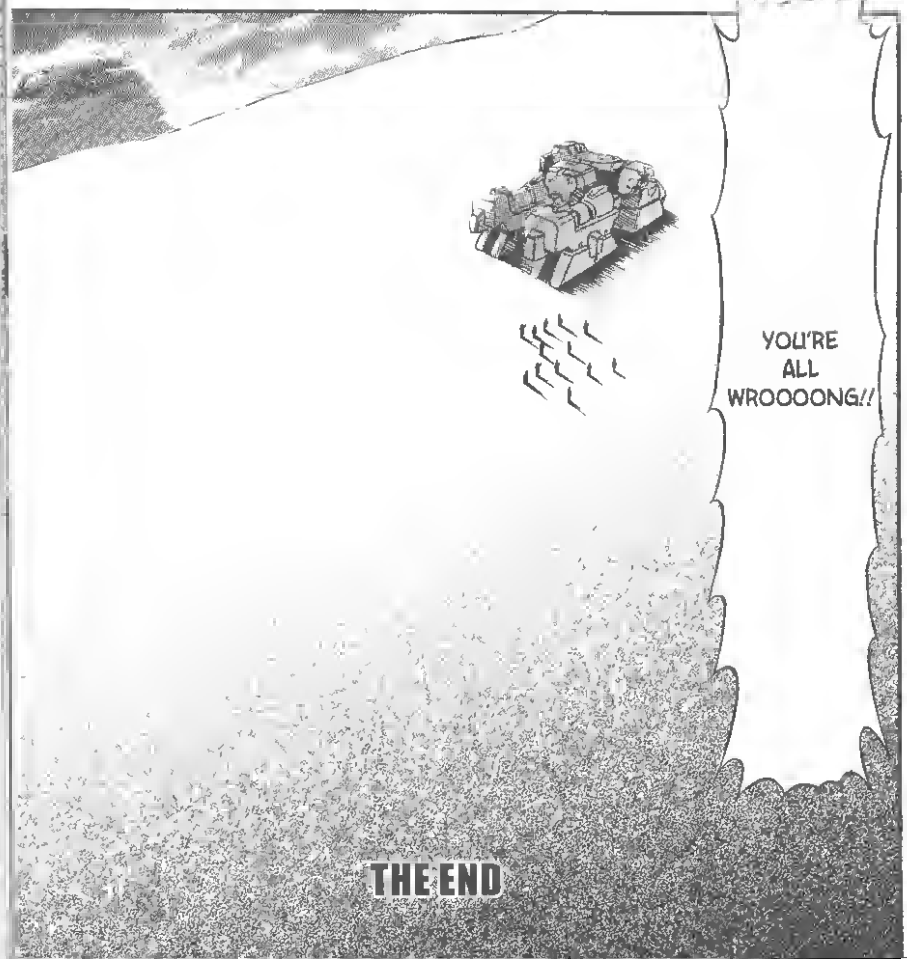


UM...
WHERE'S MAMET ...?
HEY GUYS!


OH...

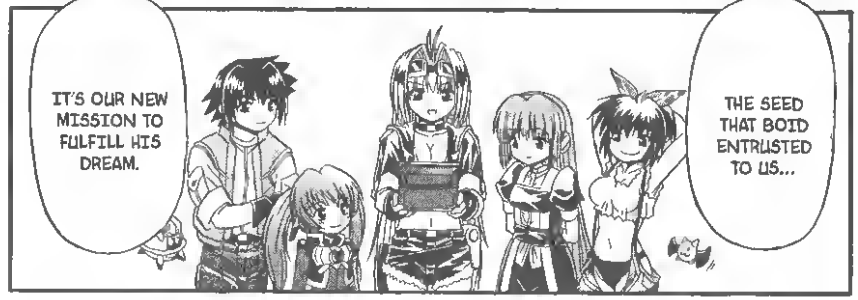
IT WAS A CLOSE CALL...GOOD THING WE COUNTERED THEIR BEAM ON TIME.
LOUIS...

SLEEP... AND MEND MY WOUNDS.
TAKE A BATH.
GET SOME CHOW!
FIX THE TRAILER!!
PLAYYY!!


YOU'RE ALL WROOOONG!!
THE END

MOMMY

WELL...
WE FULFILLED OUR GOAL...
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO NOW?
OH!


IT'S OUR NEW MISSION TO FULFILL HIS DREAM.
THE SEED THAT BOID ENTRUSTED TO US...

LET'S DO THAT ...
BUT BEFORE THAT, THERE'S ONE MORE THING LEFT TO DO.
WE BETTER GET READY AT ONE OF THE TOWNS.
IT'S A SERIOUS RESPO-NSIBILITY.
THEN WE CAN'T STOP OUR JOURNEY.

LET'S MEET SOMEWHERE ANOTHER TIME.

KEN, YUSUKE

POSTSCRIPT

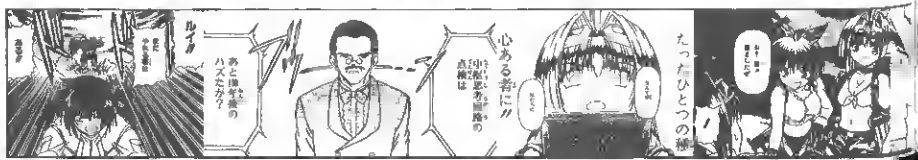
FOR ME THIS WAS MY FIRST SERIALIZATION, FIRST MAJOR PROJECT, FIRST TIME WORKING WITH AN ORIGINAL AUTHOR, FIRST STORY MANGA, FIRST S F MANGA, FIRST MECH-MANGA, FIRST 30PG PLUS EPISODE (I HAD ONLY WRITTEN A 20PG PER EPISODE) THIS WORK HAS BEEN FULL OF FIRST-TIMES FOR ME, AND I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT I WAS ABLE TO FULLY BRING TO LIFE ALL OF THESE ELEMENTS IN TO A FUN AND ENTERTAINING MANGA

AS I WRITE THIS SENTENCE, ONE MONTH HAS ALREADY PASSED SINCE I DREW THE FINAL EPISODE, AND AS MORE TIME PASSES, I FIND PLACES IN THE MANGA WHERE I COULD HAVE IMPROVED ON MY WORK ALTHOUGH I TRIED THE BEST I COULD AT THE TIME, I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT IN THE FUTURE I WILL SURPASS MYSELF MANGA IS SUCH A TOUGH ART

UNLIKE THE ORIGINAL WORK, MAMET ACCEPTS LIZA AND LOUIS AS HER "MOMMY AND DADDY." THIS WAS MY IDEA I WANTED TO DRAW THE FIVE MEMBERS AS A FAMILY, BUT I WONDER HOW WELL I DID THAT.. WAS IT THE RIGHT CHOICE TO PICTURE MAMET AS AN HONEST, PLAYFUL CHILD?

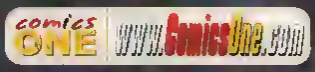
ALSO, STORY #9, "CAT FIGHT" AND AN EXTRA FEATURE MANGA "A TYPICAL DAY OF THE J F CREW," WERE ORIGINAL STORIES THAT I CREATED I'M SORRY, BUT I LIKE DRAWING STUPID STORIES.

THANK YOU FOR ALL THOSE WHO SUPPORTED ME. I'M SORRY FOR ALL THE PEOPLE I TROUBLED I WILL TRY MY BEST TO LEARN FROM THIS EXPERIENCE AND INCORPORATE IT INTO MY FUTURE WORKS. I DON'T KNOW WHEN I WILL SEE EVERY-ONE AGAIN, BUT WHEN THAT DAY COMES, I HOPE I DELIVER PROMISING WORK



In this final installment of Junk Force, Wooty, Mill, Liza, Louis and the robotic Mamet traverse the last few miles to their destination – the Z.P.T. stronghold. But on their journey, Mamet wonders off and is separated from her "family". While lost she helps out another Martian also bent on bringing Z.P.T. to their knees. But where does this new character's true allegiances lay end how will it affect their mission to crush Z.P.T.?

JUNK FORCE



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TEU

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MANGA

JUNK